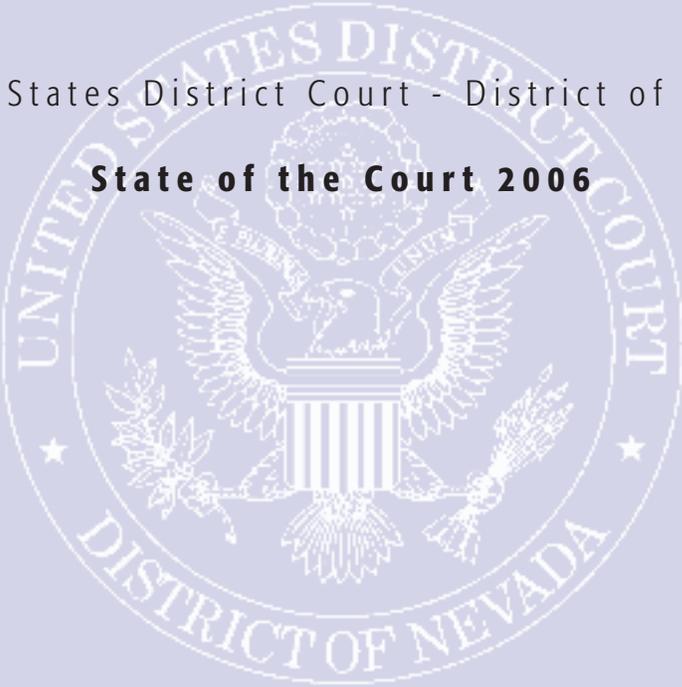


United States District Court - District of Nevada

**State of the Court 2006**





Seal of the United States District Court for the District of Nevada

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# Introduction To 2006 District Report

by Chief Judge Philip M. Pro

On behalf of the judges of our Court, I am pleased to introduce the District of Nevada's second State of the Court Report. Much has changed since our first Report published in April 2002. One thing that has remained constant, however, is the commitment of the judges and all members of the Court family to serve the public at the highest level and to meet the challenges of growth and technological change notwithstanding unprecedented national budgetary constraints.

After nearly two decades as Bankruptcy Judge, Judge Robert Clive Jones joined the District Court in Las Vegas in October 2003, and last November we welcomed Judge Brian Sandoval, former Attorney General for the State of Nevada, to the District Court in Reno. Also in the past year, Judge Howard McKibben assumed senior status after more than twenty years of active service, and Judge David Hagen retired after more than eleven years with the Court. The District's corps of Bankruptcy and Magistrate Judges has also changed with the addition of Bankruptcy Judge Bruce Markell and Magistrate Judge George W.

Foley who both maintain chambers in Las Vegas.

In September 2003, Christopher Hansen was appointed Chief Probation Officer succeeding David Sanders who retired after many years of public service. In July 2004, Shiela Adkins joined the Court as Chief Pretrial Services Officer succeeding Jim Marsh who retired after more than twenty years as Nevada's first Chief Pretrial Services Officer. Finally, Magistrate Judge Phyllis Halsey Atkins, retired after nearly twenty-five years with the Court, as did Chief Deputy Clerk Linda Lea Sharer, who had served more than 35 years in Reno and Las Vegas.

In October 2004, we rededicated the Foley Federal Building and United States Courthouse in Las Vegas after a major two-year renovation project. Originally completed in 1967, the Foley Courthouse now provides much-needed space for our growing Bankruptcy Court and United States Probation Office. Named in honor of the entire Foley Family which has made so many contributions to the Nevada legal community over four generations, the Foley Courthouse and the Lloyd D. George United States Court-

house will meet the growing space needs of our Court in Las Vegas for years to come.

Many other important events and projects reflecting the growth of our Court are detailed in this Report. Perhaps none is more significant than the adoption and implementation over the past two years of the new Case Management/Electronic Case Filing system (CM/ECF) which will almost certainly have a profound impact on the manner in which all cases are litigated in the District of Nevada and throughout the entire United States Court system. The Electronic Case Filing System is a "work in progress" in Nevada as it is throughout the nation, and reflects a tremendous co-operative effort by the staff of the Court and countless members of the Nevada legal community.

As you read this Report, I hope you will be reminded of the commitment of our Court to insure an independent, impartial and dignified forum in which disputes can be fairly resolved in accord with the Constitution and laws of the United States, and in a manner which promotes respect for the law and inspires public trust.



"Bankruptcy Judge Bruce A. Markell take the oath of office as his mother, Ms. Rachel G. Markell, holds the family bible.



Judge Alex Kozinski administers oath to Judge Robert Clive Jones, as his wife, Michelle, holds the family bible.



"Judge Howard D. McKibben celebrated the taking of Senior Status with his family on April 1, 2005.



Unveiling of Judge David Warner Hagen's portrait.



Chief Judge Philip M. Pro administers the oath of office to Magistrate Judge George W. Foley.



Judge Brian E. Sandoval sworn in by Chief Judge Philip M. Pro.



## Judicial Biographies

### Philip M. Pro



Philip M. Pro was appointed United States District Judge for the District of Nevada by President Ronald Reagan in July 1987 and has served as Chief Judge for the District of Nevada since 2002. Prior to his appointment as District Judge, Judge Pro served as United States Magistrate Judge from 1980 to 1987.

Judge Pro received his J.D. degree from Golden Gate University School of Law in June 1972. Shortly thereafter, he began his legal career as a law clerk for Judge William Compton of the Eighth Judicial District Court in Las Vegas. From 1973 to 1975, he served as a Deputy Public Defender for Clark County; as an Assistant United States Attorney both at Las Vegas and Reno from 1975 to 1977; as a partner in the law firm of Semenza, Murphy and Pro in Reno from 1977 to 1979; and as Deputy Attorney General for the State of Nevada assigned to the gaming division from 1979 to 1980.

In October 1993, Chief Justice Rehnquist appointed Judge Pro as chair of the Committee on the Administration of the Magistrate Judges System of the Judicial Conference of the United States, a position he held through October 1998. He served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Judges Association from 1992 to 2001 and served as vice president from 1997 to 2001. Judge Pro has served as a member of the Ninth Circuit Jury Instructions Committee, and currently serves as a member of the Ninth Circuit Capital Case Committee and Chair of the Ninth Circuit Wellness Committee. He is also an active member of the Nevada American Inn of Court, serving as its president from 1988 to 1990.

Since 1998, Judge Pro has participated in a variety of international "Rule of Law" programs in the countries of Hungary, Republic of Georgia, Netherlands, and Spain. In March 2003, he was a Co-moderator for the U.S. Department of Justice Colloquium for Iraqi Jurists in Washington, D.C. Judge Pro currently serves on the William S. Boyd School of Law Advisory Committee and on the Nevada State Bar Advisory Commission on Law-Related Education. He is active in

the *We, the People . . . the Citizen and the Constitution* program for high school students, and has participated in a wide variety of continuing legal education programs sponsored by local, state and national bar associations, including the Department of Justice Attorney General Advocacy Institute.

### Roger L. Hunt



Judge Roger L. Hunt was appointed United States District Judge for the District of Nevada in May 2000. Judge Hunt had served as a Magistrate Judge since July 1992, and was chair of the Executive Board of the Ninth Circuit Magistrate Judges Conference at the time of his confirmation.

A native Nevadan, Judge Hunt received his undergraduate degree in history from Brigham Young University in 1966. He worked on a master's degree for one year and then entered law school at the National Law Center at George Washington University, receiving his J.D. degree with honors in 1970. While attending law school, Judge Hunt worked on the staff of United States Senator Howard W. Cannon.

Judge Hunt passed the Nevada Bar in 1970 and was appointed Deputy District Attorney in January 1971. In December 1971, he joined the Las Vegas firm of Rose & Norwood; he became partner eighteen-months later and remained with the firm under the name Edwards, Hunt, Hale & Hansen until his appointment to the bench in 1992.

Judge Hunt serves as the judicial liaison for the Criminal Justice Act Panel where he coordinates the Court Appointed Attorneys Panel. He serves on the Ninth Circuit Model Jury Instruction Committee, is also a member of the Ninth Circuit Library Committee, is co-chair of the CM/ECF Implementation Committee, and chair of the Case Management Subcommittee. He is also a past president of the Nevada American Inn of Court.

Judge Hunt and his wife, Mauna Sue, have six children.

### Kent J. Dawson



Judge Dawson was confirmed by the United States Senate in May 2000 to fill one of the newly authorized seats in the United States District Court for the District of Nevada. He received his undergraduate degree in 1969 from Weber State College in Ogden, Utah, where he attended on athletic and music scholarships. After graduating from the University of Utah Law School in 1971, he clerked for Judge James Guinan in the Second Judicial District Court.

Judge Dawson became Henderson City Attorney in 1972 where he served until 1979. During that time he was instrumental in creation of the Henderson Public Improvement Trust, an issuer of tax exempt bonds. During his service, he represented the city in attracting Ethel M. Chocolates, Levi Strauss, Breyer's Ice Cream and many other businesses. He was also instrumental in the first issuance of industrial development bonds for the cities of Las Vegas and North Las Vegas. Infrastructure for the master-planned communities of The Lakes at Las Vegas, Green Valley Ranch, McDonald Ranch and Seven Hills was financed with tax exempt bonds during his tenure. Those communities have been the driving force behind Henderson becoming one of the fastest growing large cities in the United States for the past several years. Judge Dawson served as legal counsel for the Trust until he became a full-time judge.

Judge Dawson was in private practice from 1979 until 1995. While engaged in private practice, he focused primarily in civil law. He was recognized by the Clark County Pro Bono Project for Outstanding Contribution by a Law Firm. In 1995 he was appointed Justice of the Peace for Henderson and subsequently elected to a six-year term. Judge Dawson is an elected officer and director of the Henderson Chamber of Commerce, having served as President and having received the "Member of the Year" award. He has donated his time in the creation of numerous charitable and community organizations. He has also been licensed as a private pilot with instrument and multi-engine ratings.

### Larry R. Hicks

Larry R. Hicks was appointed by President George W. Bush and was sworn-in as United States District Court Judge for the District of Nevada in 2001.



Judge Hicks received his bachelor of science degree from the University of Nevada, Reno in 1965 and his law degree from the University of Colorado School of Law in 1968. From 1968 to 1971, he served as Deputy District Attorney in Washoe County, Nevada, and in 1971 he became the Chief Criminal Deputy District Attorney. He was elected as Washoe County District Attorney in 1974 and served from 1974 through 1978. Judge Hicks successfully tried numerous murder, robbery and other major felony jury trials while with the District Attorney's office.

Judge Hicks joined the statewide law firm of McDonald, Carano, Wilson, McCune, Bergin, Frankovich & Hicks LLP., as a partner in 1979 and practiced primarily in the areas of personal injury, commercial and complex litigation. He tried numerous civil jury and non-jury cases and was the chair of the firm's litigation section from 1986 until he left the firm.

Judge Hicks is past-president of the State Bar of Nevada (1993-1994) and served on the Board of Governors of the State Bar from 1988 to 1994. He is also past-president and master of the Bruce R. Thompson Chapter of the American Inn of Court in Reno. In 1998, he was inducted into the American College of Trial Lawyers. He also served as a delegate to the American Bar Association from 1994 until 2000.

Judge Hicks and his wife, Marianne, have three children. He and his wife are avid equestrians and outdoor enthusiasts.

### James C. Mahan

Judge Mahan is a long-time resident of Las Vegas, having lived and practiced law there continuously since 1973. He was born in El Paso, Texas, during the Second World War, and he grew up in Grand Junction, Colorado.



Judge Mahan attended the University of Charleston, West Virginia, and following graduation, he served in the United States Navy from 1966 to 1969.

Upon receiving his honorable discharge, Judge Mahan attended Vanderbilt University Law School where he was selected for Vanderbilt's national moot court team. Following graduation from law school, Judge Mahan was admitted to practice in Nevada, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, the United States Tax Court, and United States Supreme Court.

In 1982, Judge Mahan and Frank A. Ellis III formed the law firm of Mahan & Ellis, Chartered, where they practiced law primarily in the areas of business and commercial litigation for seventeen years. Judge Mahan was named to "Who's Who in America" and "Who's Who in the World," as well as "Who's Who in American Law."

In February 1999, Governor Kenny Guinn appointed Judge Mahan to the Clark County Judicial District Court. Judge Mahan served as chair of the Committee to Review and Revise the Eighth Judicial District Court Rules, as chair of the Clark Regional Judicial Counsel, as a member of the Joint Task Force on Civil/Criminal Specialization, and was appointed by the Nevada Supreme Court to the Study Committee to review the Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure.

In 2001, United States Senator John Ensign nominated Judge Mahan to the United States District Court. Judge Mahan formally took the Oath of Office on February 1, 2002.

### Robert C. Jones

Judge Robert Clive Jones was appointed United States District Judge for the District of Nevada by President Bush in October 2003. He was born and raised in Las Vegas, Nevada. He is married to Michele Bunker Jones and is the father of four children.



He graduated from Brigham Young University with honors in accounting and then attended UCLA School of Law where he was associate editor of the law review, member of the Order of the Coif, and member of the Order of Barristers. He also served in the Nevada and California National Guard.

Judge Jones passed the CPA examination in 1971 and obtained his CPA Certificate in November of 1976. He clerked for Judge J. Clifford Wallace, Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and practiced law from 1976 to 1983. He is a member of the State Bars of California and Nevada and has been admitted to the United States Tax Court.

Judge Jones was appointed as United States Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Nevada in February of 1983. He was appointed to the United States Bankruptcy Appellate Panel of the Ninth Circuit in November 1986, and served on that Panel until 1999. Judge Jones served as a member of the Judicial Conference Committee on Codes of Conduct from October 1989 until 1995.



### **Brian Sandoval**



Brian Sandoval was appointed United States District Judge for the District of Nevada by President George W. Bush in October 2005, becoming the state's first Hispanic federal judge. Judge Sandoval received his bachelor of arts degree from the University of Nevada in 1986 and his law degree from The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law in 1989.

Prior to serving as a federal judge, Sandoval was Nevada's Attorney General. As Attorney General, Sandoval led the state's legal fight against the storage of high level nuclear waste at Yucca Mountain, developed Nevada's first Public Integrity Unit and sponsored important legislation strengthening Nevada's laws against domestic violence, drug abuse and human trafficking.

As Attorney General, Sandoval was also the chairman and a member of several state boards and commissions, including the Nevada Boards of Pardons, Prisons, Transportation, and Examiners, the Cyber-Crime Task Force, the Committee on Domestic Violence and the Prosecutorial Advisory Council.

Prior to his election as Attorney General, Sandoval served as a member and chairman of the Nevada Gaming Commission, which oversees Nevada's gaming industry. At age 35, Sandoval was the youngest person ever to serve as the state's chief gaming regulator.

Sandoval also served for three years as Nevada's at-large member of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency ("TRPA") Governing Board. The TRPA is a bi-state agency that governs land use policies at Lake Tahoe.

Before his Gaming Commission and TRPA appointments, Sandoval served two terms in the Nevada Legislature where he served on the Judiciary, Taxation and Natural Resources Committees and sponsored 14 bills that became law. As a legislator, Sandoval also served on the Nevada Legislative Commission, the Advisory Commission on Sentencing, the Juvenile Justice Commission, the Advisory Council on Community Notification of Sex Offenders and the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency Oversight Committee.

As a private practitioner, Sandoval had a varied law practice, where he engaged in litigation, administrative and adoption

matters. Throughout his career, Sandoval has received several awards and certificates, including the Hispanics in Politics' 1996 "Broche de Oro Award", the Anti-Defamation League's 2003 "Torch of Liberty Award," the Nevada State Bar's 2004 "Access to Justice Public Lawyer Award", the Latino Coalition's 2004 "Most Influential Hispanic in the U.S. Award" and the 2004 University of Nevada "Alumnus of the Year Award."

Judge Sandoval and his wife, Kathleen, have three children. Judge Sandoval enjoys running, traveling and spending time with his family.

### **Edward C. Reed, Jr.**



President Jimmy Carter appointed Judge Reed to the United States District Court in October 1979. Judge Reed became Acting Chief Judge in 1983 and Chief Judge in 1986. He assumed his current status as Senior District Judge in July 1992.

After graduating from Reno High School in 1942, Judge Reed enlisted in the United States Army. During World War II, he served as a Staff Sergeant in the E.T.O. and the South Pacific; he was a prisoner of war in Germany in 1945. Judge Reed received his college education at the University of Nevada and received his J.D. degree from Harvard Law School in 1952.

Judge Reed worked as an attorney with Arthur Andersen & Co. in Boston before returning to Reno to join the law firm which later became Reed & Bowen. He served as a Special Deputy Attorney General of Nevada for water rights litigation from 1967 to 1979. Prior to becoming a member of the judiciary, Judge Reed served as a member of the Washoe County School Board (1956-1972). In Sparks, Nevada, Reed High School is named for him. Judge Reed is a member of Phi Kappa Phi, American Legion, State Bar of Nevada, the American Bar Association, and the American Judicature Society.

### **Lloyd D. George**



Judge Lloyd D. George was appointed United States District Judge for the District of Nevada by President Ronald Reagan in May 1984. He served as Chief United States District Judge from 1992 to 1997, and assumed senior status in December 1997.

Judge George was a pilot in the United States Air Force. He received his bachelor of science degree in 1955 from Brigham Young University, and his J.D. degree in 1961 from the University of California at Berkeley (Boalt Hall). Upon graduating, he returned to Las Vegas where he built a successful private practice.

In 1974, Judge George was appointed to the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Nevada. During his ten years of service as a bankruptcy judge, he served on and was instrumental in the creation of bankruptcy appellate panels which permit panels of three bankruptcy judges to hear appeals directly from bankruptcy courts.

In 1996, Judge George was selected to represent the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit as a member of the Judicial Conference of the United States, the national policy-making and management body of the federal judiciary. That year, Chief Justice Rehnquist appointed him to the Conference's Executive Committee. Prior to his appointment to the Judicial Conference, he served for a number of years on three Judicial Conference committees and was the chair of two.

Judge George has distinguished himself as an expert in the organization of the judiciary. While serving on the International Judicial Relations Committee from 1993 to 1997, he and other judicial colleagues from various countries participated in numerous seminars and lectured on constitutional issues and court structure in Eastern Europe and the nations of the former Soviet Union. In 1996, he chaired a committee that worked to update the long-range national plan for the judiciary. He has also been a board member of the Federal Judicial Center (the education and research arm of the federal judiciary) where he served for four years with Chief Justice Warren Burger.

He has authored articles on the administration of the federal judiciary, ethics and insolvency. He has won many awards, including the Brigham Young University Alumni Distinguished Service Award, the Notre Dame Club's John C. Mowbray Humanitarian of the Year Award, and the Boy Scouts of America Silver Beaver Award.

At the commencement at BYU in 2001, Judge George was the recipient of the Presidential Citation. In 2005, he received the Jensen Public Service Award from Boalt Hall, University of California.

## Howard D. McKibben

Howard D. McKibben was appointed United States District Judge for the District of Nevada by President Ronald Reagan in October 1984. He was Chief Judge from December 1, 1997 until October 12, 2002. On April 1, 2005 he assumed senior status.

Judge McKibben received his bachelor of science degree in political science from Bradley University in 1962. He then attended the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public and International Affairs and received a masters degree in 1964. He received his J.D. degree in 1967 from the University of Michigan Law School. He was admitted to the Nevada Bar in 1968 where he was in private practice until he was elected District Attorney of Douglas County in 1970. He served as District Attorney from 1971 to 1977. Governor O'Callaghan appointed Judge McKibben to the Ninth Judicial District Court in 1977 where he served until 1984.

Judge McKibben has served as president of the Ninth Circuit District Judges Association and the Nevada District Judges Association. He has been a member of the Ninth Circuit Judicial Council and was the chair of the Ninth Circuit Jury Committee. He served on the Nevada State Board of Bar Examiners for several years. Judge McKibben was one of the founders and a past president of the Howard D. McKibben Inn of Court, and he is one of the founders of the Bruce R. Thompson Inn of Court. He has served for many years on the faculty of the National Judicial College. Judge McKibben has participated with the American Bar Association's Central and Eastern European Law Initiative Program and has participated in seminars in Eastern Europe. He currently serves as chair of the Committee on Federal-State Jurisdiction of the Judicial Conference of the United States. Judge McKibben and his wife, Mary Ann, have two children.



## United States Magistrate Judges

### Lawrence R. Leavitt

A native of Chicago, Illinois, Judge Leavitt is a 1959 graduate of the University of Illinois at Urbana. After receiving a masters degree in philosophy from the University of California at Berkeley, he received his J.D. degree in 1969 from the University of California Boalt Hall School of Law. He was admitted to the Nevada Bar in 1970.

After a year in private practice, Judge Leavitt spent six years in the Clark County District Attorney's Office, first as a deputy district attorney and then as a chief deputy district attorney, where he prosecuted a variety of murder cases and other cases involving crimes of violence and drug trafficking. In 1978, he was appointed Chief Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Nevada. He served as the Chief Assistant for three and a half years, and prosecuted a number of public corruption and other white collar crime cases. Thereafter, Judge Leavitt spent six years in the Justice Department's Organized Crime and Racketeering Strike Force in Las Vegas, first as a trial attorney and then as the attorney in charge of that office, during which time he prosecuted numerous members of organized crime until his appointment to the bench in 1987.

Judge Leavitt serves as the chair of the Criminal Rules Subcommittee of the District of Nevada Standing Committee on the Local Rules and is a member of the Nevada American Inn of Court, for which he served two terms as president.

Judge Leavitt is married and has one daughter, one stepson, and two grandchildren.

### Robert J. Johnston

Judge Robert J. Johnston has served as a United States Magistrate Judge since 1987. He graduated from the University of the Pacific's McGeorge School of Law in 1977, and then clerked for Judge Merlyn H. Hoyt in the Seventh Judicial District in Ely, Nevada.

Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Johnston was Chief of the Civil Section of the United States Attorney's Office. From 1979 to 1982, Judge Johnston



served as the District Attorney for White Pine County and also maintained a private practice.

Judge Johnston participates in a variety of professional and social organizations. He served on the Pro Se & Prisoner Litigation Committee and the Advisory Committee of Magistrate Judges for the Administrative Office of the United States Courts. Judge Johnston also served as a Circuit Director for the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals for the Federal Magistrate Judge Association. While on the Ninth Circuit Conference Executive Committee from 1996 to 1999, he participated in organizing three circuit conferences. Judge Johnston currently sits on the Court Administration and Case Management Committee of the Judicial Conference of the United States Courts and the 9th Circuit Magistrate Judge Executive Board. He is also an active member of the Nevada Judicial Historical Society and the Nith Judicial Circuit Historical Society.

In early 2000, Judge Johnston was named as the District of Nevada's court historian. He is currently taking oral histories of his colleagues. These oral histories will eventually be transcribed and submitted to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Historical Society. Passionate about history, Judge Johnston hopes that the personal interviews provide a more insightful understanding of the person. Among others, he has completed oral histories on Judge John Wooley of Kansas, the last of the original twenty-nine federal magistrate judges; Judge Venetta Tassopoulos, the first woman federal magistrate judge; Judge Phyllis Halsey Atkins, the first woman federal magistrate judge from the District of Nevada; and Judge Edward C. Reed, Jr., Senior United States District Judge from the District of Nevada.

Additionally, Judge Johnston is active in local organizations. He is a on the Board of Directors of the Las Vegas Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America and holds a leadership position within his church. Judge Johnston has taught a class for inmates to prepare them for reentry into the community upon their release from incarceration.

In his spare time, Judge Johnston enjoys running (including the Boston Marathon three times), traveling and spending time with his family.



**Robert A. McQuaid, Jr.**



Judge McQuaid earned a bachelor of arts degree from the University of Nevada, Reno in 1968. He received his law degree from Willamette University College of Law in 1971, and was admitted to the State Bar of Nevada that year.

Judge McQuaid served as a lawyer representative to the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference (1987-1989) and was active in the State Bar of Nevada serving on the Fee Dispute Committee, the Disciplinary Committee, and the Medical-Legal Screening Panel.

Before his appointment to the bench in 1996, Judge McQuaid was a partner in the law firm of Georgeson, McQuaid, Thompson & Angaran in Reno.

Judge McQuaid is a member of the State Bar of Nevada and the American Board of Trial Advocates. He is a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and a master in the Bruce R. Thompson American Inn of Court.

**Valerie P. Cooke**



Valerie P. Cooke was appointed as a United States Magistrate Judge in 1999. Prior to her appointment, she was a partner in the law firm of McDonald Carano Wilson McCune Bergin Frankovich & Hicks LLP where she devoted her practice to creditors' rights in bankruptcy and commercial litigation.

Judge Cooke graduated cum laude from the University of Nevada, Reno with a bachelor of arts degree in English. A third generation Nevada lawyer, she received her J.D. degree from Northwestern School of Law of Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon, where she served on the law review and was a member of the Cornelius Honor Society.

In 1995, Governor Bob Miller appointed Judge Cooke to the Nevada Tax Commission, where she served as vice-chair until her appointment to the bench. From 1997 until her appointment, she served on the Nevada Judicial Discipline Commission, and she was president of Northern Nevada Women Lawyers Association in 1990. Judge Cooke was named as the 2001 recipient of the Outstanding Woman Lawyer Award by Northern Nevada Women Lawyers Association. She is a master

in the Bruce R. Thompson Inn of Court and served as chair of the 2002 District of Nevada Conference Committee. She is a member of the Ninth Circuit's Standing Committee on Alternative Dispute Resolution and the National Association of Women Judges.

**Peggy A. Leen**



Peggy A. Leen was appointed United States Magistrate Judge on January 16, 2001. A Nevada resident for more than thirty years, she attended the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, graduating with a degree in political science in 1976, and received her J.D. from the University of San Diego Law School in 1979.

Judge Leen has a diverse legal background as both a criminal and civil trial lawyer. She worked as a volunteer for the Clark County Public Defender's Office as a student at UNLV, and later did an externship with that office while in law school. As a law student extern practicing under Nevada's newly adopted student practice rule, she represented clients in felony preliminary hearings and tried one felony jury trial. After law school she worked as a Deputy Public Defender and tried a number of felony jury trials before joining the civil litigation firm of Thorndal, Backus, Maupin & Armstrong. Judge Leen became a partner in that firm in 1983 and was the managing partner for three years. While in private practice, she litigated mass disaster, toxic tort, radiation and employment cases in both state and federal court.

Judge Leen left private practice in 1995, and joined the Clark County District Attorney's Office where she prosecuted capital and other murder cases as a member of the major violator's unit. Just prior to her appointment, she defended the County in eminent domain and tort cases as a Deputy District Attorney in the civil division.

She is the only woman lawyer from the State of Nevada who has been elected a fellow of the International Society of Barristers, the International Academy of Trial Lawyers, and the American College of Trial Lawyers.

**George W. Foley, Jr.**



George Foley, Jr., was appointed as a United States Magistrate Judge in August, 2005. Prior to his appointment, Magistrate Judge Foley was a partner in the law firm of Pearson, Patton, Shea, Foley & Kurtz, where his practice was primarily devoted to insurance coverage, bad faith, legal malpractice and general civil practice litigation. He began his career in partnership with his father, George Foley, Sr., in the areas of criminal law, divorce and domestic relations.

Magistrate Judge Foley is a 1977 graduate of the University of Nevada at Las Vegas with a bachelor of arts degree in History. A fourth generation Nevada lawyer, Judge Foley graduated from the University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law in 1980 where he was class valedictorian and a member of the Order of the Coif. Judge Foley has served as member and vice-chair person of the State Bar of Nevada Southern Disciplinary Board and as a member and vice-chairman of the Standing Committee on Judicial Ethics and Election Practices and was also a member of the Nevada Board of Bar Examiners.



## United States Bankruptcy Judges

### Gregg W. Zive

Chief Judge Zive was sworn in as a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Nevada on January 23, 1995. He became Chief Judge effective October 1, 1999. He is presently the Chair of the Ninth Circuit Conference of Chief Bankruptcy Judges.

Judge Zive graduated from the University of Nevada in 1967 with a B.A. in journalism. He graduated magna cum laude from the University of Notre Dame Law School in 1973 where he was a member and an editor of the law review. Prior to becoming a judge, Judge Zive's practice was as a general civil litigator, concentrating in the areas of commercial, contract, real property, and employment relations law.

Judge Zive is a Fellow of The American College of Bankruptcy (inducted in 2005). He was admitted to the bars of California (1973) and Nevada (1976). He also is a member of the Washoe County Bar Association (president, 1992-1993), National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges (Board of Governors 1999-2001; Board of Directors, NCBJ Endowment for Education and Education Committee for 2006 Annual Conference), American Bankruptcy Institute, State Bar of Nevada Advisory Commission on Law Related Education and Ninth Circuit Public Information and Community Outreach Committee. He has completed a three year term as a member of the Ninth Circuit Standing Committee on ADR. He has been a trustee of the Access to Justice Foundation of Washoe County, Nevada and is a Master Emeritus in the Bruce R. Thompson Chapter of the American Inns of Court.

He has taught and been a presenter at numerous seminars regarding various bankruptcy-related topics as well as civil procedure, evidence, real property issues, employment law and trial techniques and has published articles relating to those topics.



### Linda B. Riegler

Judge Linda B. Riegler was born and raised in Greenville, Ohio. She graduated from Shepherd College in West Virginia in 1970 with a bachelor of science degree. Judge Riegler received a masters degree from the Graduate School of Public Affairs at the State University of New York at Albany in 1972, and her J.D. degree from Albany Law School in 1977, where she was a member and an editor of the law review. She worked for the New York State Legislature in various capacities from 1971 to 1977.

Judge Riegler was employed at Lionel Sawyer & Collins in Las Vegas from 1977 to 1988, becoming the first female partner in that firm in 1983.

In January 1988, Judge Riegler was appointed as a United States Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Nevada and was reappointed for a second fourteen year term in 2002. She served as Chief Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Nevada from July 1993 until October 1999, and served as chair of the Conference of Chief Bankruptcy Judges of the Ninth Circuit from October 1998 until October 1999.

She has served on various District committees, as a member of the Ninth Circuit Fairness Committee, and as a member of the Board of Governors of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges. She presently serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the American Bankruptcy Institute.

She has served as a pro tem judge on the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel of the Ninth Circuit and has lectured at numerous conferences and workshops.



### Bruce A. Markell

Bruce A. Markell was sworn in as a bankruptcy judge on July 9, 2004. He came to the bench from the academy; since 1999, he had been the Doris S. and Theodore B. Lee Professor of Law at the William S. Boyd School of Law at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, where he taught Contracts, Commercial Law, Securitization and Bankruptcy. He maintains a position at the Boyd School of Law as a Senior Fellow in Bankruptcy and Commercial Law.

Judge Markell is a 1977 graduate of Pitzer College, and a 1980 graduate of the King Hall School of Law, University of California at Davis, where he was first in his class and editor-in-chief of the law review. Following graduation, he clerked for then-judge Anthony M. Kennedy when Justice Kennedy was a member of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Before becoming an academic in 1990, he was a partner in the Los Angeles office of Sidley & Austin, specializing in workouts and bankruptcy matters. From 1990 to 1999, he taught at the Indiana University School of Law—Bloomington. During 1999, he was the Bruce W. Nichols Visiting Professor of Law at Harvard Law School.

Judge Markell is the author of numerous articles on bankruptcy and commercial law. He is a member of the editorial board of Collier on Bankruptcy, and contributes several chapters to that publication. In 2001, he published a casebook on Contracts, Making and Doing Deals: Contracts in Context, with Professor David Epstein and Dean Lawrence Ponoroff. In 2004, he published Core Concepts of Commercial Law: Past, Present & Future, a commercial law casebook with Professor John Dolan and Dean Larry Ponoroff, and Securitization, Structured Finance and Capital Markets, a set of teaching materials on securitization, with Professors Steven L. Schwarcz and Lissa Broome. In 2005, he published a bankruptcy casebook, Bankruptcy (Including BAPCPA): 21st Century Debtor-Creditor Law, Second Edition, with Professors David Epstein and Steve Nickles, and Elizabeth Perris, a United States Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Oregon.

In 1999 he was elected a conferee of



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the National Bankruptcy Conference (where he currently serves on its Executive Committee and is Vice-Chair of its Drafting Committee). In 1997 he was selected as a member of the American Law Institute, and in 2000 he was selected as a member of the International Insolvency Institute and as a fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy.

He has served as an advisor on bankruptcy and secured transaction reform to the Republic of Indonesia, was the International Bar Association's representative to UNCITRAL's creation of a model law on the assignment of international receivables, and was asked by the United Nations to be a expert consultant to its project to create a legislative guide for secured transactions.

### **Bert M. Goldwater**



Judge Bert M. Goldwater was born on January 4, 1915, in San Francisco, California. He first came to Reno, Nevada, at an early age where he was raised by his grandparents. Following his graduation from the University of Nevada in 1936, Judge Goldwater attended the University of Colorado School of Law. He was a member of Phi Alpha Delta and served on the Board of Editors of the Rocky Mountain Law Review. He received his law degree in 1939.

Judge Goldwater was admitted to the Nevada Bar in 1939, beginning his legal career in private practice. He served as president of the Washoe County Bar Association, and from 1940 to 1955, he was a member of the Nevada Board of Bar Examiners where he was chair of that board. In 1954, he was elected a member of the American College of Trial Lawyers, and in 1995, he was named the national chair of the National Conference of Bar Examiners.

Judge Goldwater was chair of the first Nevada Human Rights Commission and was a member of the Nevada Gaming Commission. He was chair of the Commission appointed by the Nevada State Legislature to study Nevada's taxation system and was state chair of the Save Our Schools Committee which brought about the Nevada state sales tax.

Judge Goldwater began his judicial appointment as a Referee in Bankruptcy in 1964, and he was officially installed as a United States Bankruptcy Judge in 1973, in which capacity he served until his resignation in 1982. He went on to practice as a member of the law firm of Lionel Sawyer & Collins until resigning from the firm in 1992.

In 1994, Judge Goldwater was recalled as a United States Bankruptcy Judge and continues to serve in that capacity today.



# Nevada Courthouse Facilities

## Foley Federal Building and United States Courthouse - Las Vegas, NV

In October 2002, construction on the major Renovation and Alteration Project of the Foley Federal Building and United States Courthouse started shortly after the United States Bankruptcy Court was temporarily relocated to the adjacent Lloyd D. George United States Courthouse.

After a construction period of 22 months, the Renovation and Alteration Project for the Foley Federal Building and United States Courthouse achieved substantial completion in July 2004, and the United States Bankruptcy Court was the first tenant to move into the building during the first weekend of August 2004. By mid-September 2004 all other tenants (consisting of the United States Probation Office, the Social Security Administration Office of Hearing & Appeals, the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the United States Trustee's Office) had completed their move in accordance with the original project completion schedule.

The Foley Federal Building and United States Courthouse has five courtrooms – two on the second floor and three on the third floor. Each courtroom is furnished with new millwork and the latest courtroom technology of touch-screen control for video conferencing, evidence presentation and a one-button interface for preprogrammed operation of projectors, cameras and eight controllable lighting zones. Utilizing the services of consultants for cost analyses and recommendations, the United States Bankruptcy Court installed the latest approved technology for cabling and fiber optic telecommunications. The telephone system was upgraded with new digital phone units with improved features.

On October 21, 2004, the Re-Dedication of the Foley Federal Building and United States Courthouse was held honoring the entire Foley Family in the renovated courtrooms where United States Court Judges' Roger T. Foley and Roger D. Foley conducted trials, and was followed by a reception, a historical photograph presentation and tours of the courtroom

finishes and features. The Re-Dedication ceremony was well received with approximately 200 invited guests.

With the renovated Foley Federal Building and United States Courthouse, the Clerk's Office is housed on the third and fourth floor of the building with the United States Probation Department located on the first and second floor. Patricia Gray, Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court says: "The very successful renovation was accomplished so well due to the contributions and efforts of many talented individuals, including personnel from the United States Court system and the General Services Administration whose overall goal was to provide a renovated federal courthouse which is secure and efficient in its design and accessible and inviting to the many members of the public and attorney community who will use the facilities for years to come."



Exterior of renovated Foley Federal Building



Renovated Bankruptcy courtrooms within Foley Federal Building



**Lloyd D. George  
United States Courthouse -  
Las Vegas NV**

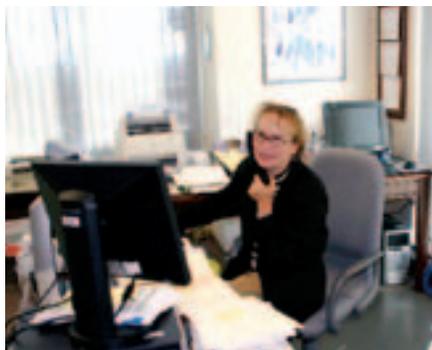
The Lloyd D. George United States Courthouse, opened in July 2000, stands as an exemplary model of a successful courthouse construction project with the project being completed on time and within budget. While the Courthouse continues to provide wonderful space for current occupants, the significant growth in the State of Nevada has resulted in the need for a prospectus level renovation project within the building to ensure that the building continues to meet the Court's space requirements for the next 20 to 30 years. Working with the General Services Administration, the Court completed a feasibility study which identifies the need for six to eight additional courtrooms and chambers within the next 10 to 15 years. Fortunately, there is space in the building to accommodate the Court's growth, but, due to a national moratorium on prospectus level space projects, the project is currently on hold.

**Bruce R. Thompson  
Federal Building and United  
States Courthouse -  
Reno NV**

The Bruce R. Thompson Federal Building and United States Courthouse in Reno, NV was completed and occupied by the Court in March 1996. This courthouse is facing similar growth related space challenges as is the Lloyd D. George Courthouse. The Court also completed a feasibility study for this building which identified the ideal long-term space solution as a "campus setting" with an annex being built adjacent to the Thompson building to house the United States Bankruptcy Court and to provide expansion for the District Court. This project may be a long time coming in light of the current space moratorium and austere budget projections.



Clerk's office staff at work in the Lloyd D. George Courthouse



Clerk's office staff at work in the Bruce R. Thompson Courthouse

**C. Clifton Young  
Federal Building and United  
States Courthouse -  
Reno, NV**

The United States Bankruptcy Court in Reno, NV is currently housed in the C. Clifton Young Federal Building and United States Courthouse that was constructed in 1964 with no later major renovations or alterations to the structure. Previous and recent Feasibility Studies by outside consulting firms had identified that asbestos fireproofing, asbestos floor tile and lead-based paint was present in the building. In addition, the building did not meet current building codes with respect to modern seismic standards or General Services Administration progressive collapse criteria.

The most recent Feasibility Study was commissioned to assess the long-term needs of the United States District Court family and related agencies in the Reno area. A Master Plan was proposed that would create a court campus in the downtown area by expanding the existing Bruce R. Thompson United States Courthouse for the United States District Court and constructing an annex for the United States Bankruptcy Court and other related agencies.

The General Services Administration presented various interim alternatives to the United States Bankruptcy Court and the decision was made to remain in the C. Clifton Young Federal Building and United States Courthouse until Prospectus funding is approved for the long-term Master Plan and construction completed. During the interim occupancy by the United States Bankruptcy Court, General Services Administration will submit a Prospectus funding request for asbestos abatement, installation of a fire protection system and limited structural reinforcement including tenant improvements based on the General Services Administration's estimate of continued occupancy to 2020.

## Implementation of CM/ECF Case Management/Electronic Case Filing System

In early 2004, the District Court began one of the most significant changes in its history when it commenced implementation of the new national electronic docketing system known as Case Management/Electronic Case Filing (CM/ECF).

One of the largest projects ever undertaken by the federal judiciary, the development of CM/ECF began over ten years ago in an effort to utilize emerging computer technology to cope with growing and document-intensive caseloads in the United States District, Bankruptcy and Appellate Courts throughout the nation. CM/ECF is an electronic case management system that provides federal courts with enhanced docket management capabilities and much more. In addition to providing 24-hour filing and service capability from any location via the internet, real-time docketing provides simultaneous electronic access by counsel, clients, the Court and the public to court files via the internet.

Nationwide implementation of CM/ECF began first in the United States Bankruptcy Courts in 2001. In 2004, Nevada's



Bankruptcy Court successfully converted to the CM/ECF system. That same year, the District Court began the implementation process when Chief Judge Pro established the Court's CM/ECF Implementation Committee chaired by Judge David Hagen. Upon joining the District Court in November 2004, Judge Robert Clive Jones assumed duties as Co-Chair of the Implementation Committee. Judge Jones brought invaluable experience from his involvement in the implementation of CM/ECF in Nevada's Bankruptcy Court. When Judge Hagen retired in 2005, Judge Roger Hunt joined Judge Jones as Co-Chair of the Implementation Committee, and together they have helped lead the District Court through this revolutionary process.

The project manager for the District Court's implementation of CM/ECF is Cindy Jensen, Chief Deputy Clerk, who also brought to the table extensive automation experience, knowledge of the previous case management system, and knowledge gained by serving on a national committee responsible for the development of CM/ECF. Ms. Jensen, along with many other members of the Clerk's staff, are to be commended for the numerous extra hours worked in making this successful transition. The Clerk's Office successfully transferred over five-million records from our previous system, developed



and wrote the data dictionary, conducted numerous hands-on-training classes for attorneys, which are on-going, and developed custom case management reports for use by chambers

To ensure appropriate input was solicited from members of the bar on the transition to CM/ECF, an Attorney Advisory Committee was formed early in the process. This Attorney Advisory Committee consisted of District and Bankruptcy Court practitioners who provided valuable advice on their experiences with CM/ECF in Bankruptcy Court. This committee developed a "Best Practices" document for law firms, which covered topics such as computer hardware and software, establishment of an e-mail notification system, and internal training plans.

The Court has conducted an extensive outreach effort with the bar to provide information and education on CM/ECF. This was accomplished through numerous articles in bar journals written by our lawyer representatives, presentations at bar association luncheons, CM/ECF overview sessions at the courthouse, and personal visits to larger law firms. These outreach efforts paid off as within two weeks of going live with electronic filing

for law firms, over 30% of all documents were being filed electronically. The Court is providing on-going training to members of the bar and additional information about CM/ECF can be found at the Court's web site at [www.nvd.uscourts.gov](http://www.nvd.uscourts.gov).



## Budget

All agencies within the Court have experienced significant budget challenges the past several years. Reductions in allotments to the Clerk's Offices, Probation, and Pretrial Services have resulted in a strain on the system and added responsibilities for many support staff. Most agencies are operating with fewer staff than they had four years ago while the workload continues to increase. The District of Nevada is fortunate to have very dedicated and skilled employees whose commitment to the judicial branch, innovative ideas, and willingness to work extra hours, has resulted in the Court being able to maintain a high level of service to the public and to accomplish its mission in spite of diminishing resources during these austere fiscal times.

In the spirit of cooperation, the four Unit Executives in the Court meet regularly to review the status of their individual budgets and frequently share resources as needed. This joint effort by all units of the District of Nevada to put the overall mission of the Court ahead of individual priorities has also greatly assisted the ability to meet increasing demands with budget reductions.

The District Court has an active Budget Committee consisting of Chief Judge Philip Pro, Judge Roger Hunt, Judge James Mahan, and Judge Howard McKibben. This committee reviews and approves a spending plan prepared by Clerk of Court Lance Wilson.

The District of Nevada enjoys a very positive working relationship with the members of Nevada's Congressional delegation and meets regularly with Congressional representatives and their staffs to address budgetary concerns to ensure adequate resources for the federal judiciary in Nevada.

## Community Outreach Efforts

### Cultural Program

The United States District Court hosts a monthly cultural program at the Lloyd D. George United States Courthouse which is sponsored and funded by the City of Las Vegas. These lunch time performances provide employees within the building and members of the public an opportunity to enjoy a light lunch while listening to music or a historical presentation.



### Community Outreach

Courts play an important role in the life of a community. Over the past several years the Court has engaged in a variety of community outreach activities in Las Vegas and Reno which are designed to enhance public understanding and appreciation for our system of justice. Coordinating with Nevada's state and local bar associations, the judges and staff of the Court have participated in a host of law-related educational programs bringing hundreds of students throughout Nevada to our Courts for mock trials and other programs. We have also worked closely with UNLV's William S. Boyd School of Law to expand the law school's externship program.

Over the past several years, the Court has hosted hundreds of high school students in Las Vegas and Reno as part of the "Open Doors to Federal Courts" Program sponsored by the Administrative Office of United States Courts. In Reno, the semifinals and finals of the state high school mock trial competition were recently held in the Bruce R. Thompson United States Courthouse. In Las Vegas, the Court has provided learning opportunities for many



students of all ages through the auspices of the Foundation for Relevant Education About the Law (Project R.E.A.L.). The Court also serves as the home for the Howard D. McKibben Chapter of the American Inn of Court in Las Vegas and the Bruce R. Thompson Chapter of the American Inn of Court in Reno.

## District Conferences

With the assistance of the Lawyer Representatives, the District of Nevada sponsors an annual District Court Conference which is designed to provide substantive education to members of the bar and judiciary and to provide an opportunity for meaningful exchange between all attendees.

The 2005 District Court Conference was held on May 5, 2005 at the Golden Nugget Hotel in Las Vegas. The conference was chaired by Judge Kent J. Dawson and hosted the largest attendance ever at a Nevada District Conference with over 180 judges and lawyers present. The theme of the conference was "Effective Communication" with educational presentations describing how to effectively communicate with jurors, and on the proper use of e-mail versus other means of written communication. The Court was pleased to have the presence of Chief Judge Schroeder who presented a State of the Circuit address. A highlight of the conference was an informative and humorous luncheon speech by former United States Senator Richard H. Bryan on the legal history of Nevada. The conference concluded with a panel discussion at which time the lawyers had an opportunity to ask questions of all judges present.

The 2006 District Conference was chaired by Judge Larry R. Hicks and held in Reno on April 13, 2006. Guest speakers included Chief Judge Schroeder and Judge Alex Konzinski, both from the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Other topics under consideration included the Bankruptcy Reform Act, the role of jurors, and a Nevada history theme presentation.



Supreme Court Associate Justice Stevens visits with federal judges at a luncheon sponsored by the Clark County Bar Association. Earlier that morning, Justice Stephens visited the District Court and met with all judges.

## Criminal Justice Act Mentoring Program

The Constitution's Sixth Amendment guarantees all those accused of a serious crime the right to a lawyer's help, but until the Criminal Justice Act (CJA) was enacted in 1964 there was no authority to compensate lawyers appointed to represent those who could not afford to hire legal help. The CJA provides a comprehensive system for appointing and compensating lawyers to represent such defendants.

Several years ago the District of Nevada recognized that not all lawyers have the experience to provide competent criminal-defense representation in federal courts. Thus, a mentor program was developed to ensure an adequate number of well qualified attorneys were available to serve on the CJA panel. For six or seven months each year, a small group of Nevada lawyers learns all it can about representing criminal defendants in federal court. While they maintain their private practices, the lawyers attend intensive training sessions and, for no pay, shadow experienced federal practitioners in a variety of court appearances.

The program is coordinated by District Judge Roger Hunt who had this to say about the mentorship program in an article in *The Third Branch*: "There was no real model for all this," Hunt said. "It came out of a discussion among CJA panel selection committee members. We had some lawyers who applied with lots of potential but with no or not much federal experience. I asked the panel attorneys if they'd be willing to take such folks under their wings, and most said 'yes.' It hasn't cost anything, and we've been fine-tuning the program ever since."

"The training is one component of the mentoring program," said Nevada Federal Public Defender, Franny Forsman. "Combined with the shadowing of CJA panel attorneys, the training is aimed at acquainting the participants with the players in, and culture of, the federal criminal practice."

On three successive Saturday mornings, the participating lawyers are schooled in federal criminal practice. The first week's classroom is a magistrate judge's courtroom. A magistrate judge and representatives of the federal pub-

lic defender, U.S. attorney, and pretrial services offices serve as faculty. The lesson includes pretrial discovery, the role of pretrial services officers and their reports, and bail hearings.

The second session is held in the federal public defender's office, where Forsman and her staff discuss preparing a case for trial, pretrial motions, and other pretrial issues. At the third session, held in the District's probation office, representatives of the federal public defender and probation offices tutor the participants on sentencing and post-judgment issues. A final aspect of the training is a mock trial which provides the participating lawyers with an opportunity to practice their skills and receive feedback.

The Court, current CJA attorneys, and participating lawyers are very pleased with the success of the mentoring program.

## Role Of Lawyer Representatives

The Court enjoys the assistance of a specified number of lawyer representatives authorized by the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference policy to serve as liaisons between the bench and bar and before the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference. Each year the Court solicits applications to fill vacant lawyer representative terms which are three years in duration. The lawyer representative terms are staggered so that one-third of the lawyer representatives are selected each year.

Lawyer Representatives play a vital role in the District of Nevada in many ways. To ensure that the lines of communication stay open and that lawyer representatives are well informed of current issues facing the Court, they attend a quarterly meeting with the judges at which time topics of mutual concern are openly addressed and other meetings throughout the year as needed.

Lawyer Representatives serve on the District's Attorney Admission Fund Advisory Group which reviews applications and makes recommendations to the District Court judges for expenditures from the Fund. Among other uses, the bench, bar and the general public were benefitted by the Fund's expenditures to promote educational programs which

included new attorney orientation, the District Conference and the "Open Doors to Justice Program" for high school students.

Lawyer Representatives also serve as members of the following advisory committees: Court Security Committee, Civil Rules Subcommittee of the Standing Committee on the District Court Local Rules of Practice, Local Bankruptcy Rules Committee, Local Criminal Rules Committee, 2005 U.S. District Court Conference Planning Committee, 2004 Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference Pro Bono Committee and the Bankruptcy Pro Bono Committee. Lawyer Representatives also serve on the Court's CM/ECF Advisory and Planning Committee. This committee focused on the daunting tasks of implementing mandatory CM/ECF in Bankruptcy Court on January 1, 2005 and formulating and implementing mandatory CM/ECF in District Court for January, 2006. Lawyer Representative Co-Chairs also attend Nevada State-Federal Judicial Council Meetings held twice a year in the District.

Finally, the Lawyer Representatives continue their monthly column in the Nevada Bar Journal, the Nevada State Bar publication. Each month since April of 2003, one of the Lawyer Representatives has authored a monthly column designed to further communication between the bar and the Lawyer Representatives. The column addresses topics pertinent to practice in Federal Court and continues to encourage Federal Practitioners to use the Lawyer Representatives as their liaison to the Federal Bench. The monthly article has been successful in reaching the Federal Practitioner and it is expected to continue facilitating communication between the Federal Bench and the Federal Bar.



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## Roster of Prior Lawyer Representatives - District of Nevada

### 1981

Roger W. Jeppson  
Stephen L. Morris  
Richard A. Wright

### 1982

Roger W. Jeppson  
William B. Terry  
Richard A. Wright

### 1983

Julien G. Sourwine  
William B. Terry  
Richard A. Wright

### 1984

Leland E. Lutfy  
William B. Terry  
Steven T. Walther

### 1985

Rex A. Jemison  
Leland Lutfy  
John L. Thorndal  
Steven T. Walther

### 1986

Rex A. Jemison  
Leland E. Lutfy  
John L. Thorndal  
Steven T. Walther

### 1987

John L. Thorndal  
Rex A. Jemison  
Robert A. McQuaid, Jr.  
James J. Jimmerson

### 1988

James J. Jimmerson  
Allan R. Earl  
Robert A. McQuaid  
Johnnie Rawlinson

### 1989

Robert A. McQuaid  
Allan R. Earl  
James J. Jimmerson  
Johnnie Rawlinson

### 1990

Allan R. Earl  
Joseph W. Brown  
William G. Cobb  
Johnnie Rawlinson

### 1991

William G. Cobb  
Joseph W. Brown  
Donald J. Campbell  
Janet L. Chubb  
Cal J. Potter

### 1992

Joseph W. Brown  
William G. Cobb  
Donald J. Campbell  
Janet L. Chubb  
Roger L. Hunt  
Cal J. Potter

### 1993

Cal J. Potter  
Donald J. Campbell  
Janet L. Chubb  
Neil G. Galatz  
Richard W. Horton

### 1994

Richard W. Horton  
Peter C. Bernhard  
Booker T. Evans  
Neil G. Galatz  
Annabelle Whiting Hall  
Stephanie M. Smith

### 1995

Stephanie M. Smith  
Peter C. Bernahr  
Booker T. Evans  
Neil G. Galatz  
Annabelle Whiting Hall  
Richard W. Horton

### 1996

Annabelle Whiting Hall  
Peter C. Bernhard  
Booker T. Evans  
Barry L. Lieberman  
M. Kristina Pickering  
Stephanie M. Smith

### 1997

M. Kristina Pickering  
Martha J. Ashcraft  
Phillip W. Bartlett  
Barry L. Lieberman  
Harold B. Thompson

### 1998

Barry L. Lieberman  
Martha J. Ashcraft  
Phillip W. Bartlett  
M. Kristina Pickering  
Harold B. Thompson

### 1999

Harold B. Thompson  
Nancy L. Allf  
Martha J. Ashcraft  
Phillip W. Bartlett  
Von S. Heinz

### 2000

Martha J. Ashcraft  
Nancy L. Allf  
Bruce Beesley  
Von S. Heinz  
Janet L. Chubb

### 2001

Von S. Heinz  
Daniel J. Albregts  
Nancy L. Allf  
Bruce T. Beesley  
Janet L. Chubb

### 2002

Janet L. Chubb  
Daniel J. Albregts  
Laurel E. Davis  
Andrew P. Gordon  
Bruce T. Beesley

### 2003

Laurel Davis  
Andrew Gordon  
Bruce Beesley  
Jan Chubb  
Stan Hunterton  
Richard Holley  
Matt Addison  
Cecilia Rosenauer  
Tom Susich

### 2004

Stan Hunterton  
Richard Holley  
Matt Addison  
Cecilia Rosenauer  
Tom Susich  
Karen Winckler  
Jennifer Smith  
Andrew P. Gordon  
Laurel E. Davis

### 2005

Matt Addison  
Richard Holley  
Tom Susich  
Cecelia Rosenauer  
Stan Hunterton  
Jennifer Smith  
Karen Winckler  
Candace Carlyon  
Richard Pocker

### 2006

Jennifer Smith  
Karen Winckler  
Candace Carlyon  
Richard Pocker  
John Krieger  
Robert Eisenberg  
Kathleen Paustian

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## Attorney Admissions Fund

A portion of the fee paid by attorneys to be admitted to practice in federal court remains with the local court and is placed in a fund referred to as the "Attorney Admissions Fund." The use of this fund is governed by Seventh Amended Special Order 59 and is limited to items which benefit the bench, the bar, and the public but which are not otherwise available from appropriated funds.

Requests for use of the fund are reviewed by an Attorney Admissions Fund Advisory Committee which consists of a magistrate judge, a bankruptcy judge, the United States Attorney, the Federal Public Defender, and the court's lawyer representatives. The Clerk of Court staffs the committee and serves as trustee of the fund. The committee makes a recommendation with respect to the use of the fund to the district court judges who approve payments from the fund.

In the past several years, the Attorney Admissions Fund has been used for numerous purposes including furniture and equipment for the attorney lounges, establishment of an attorney training center for the use of evidence display systems, documentation of court history, public receptions following investitures and other court ceremonies, educational expenses related to the annual district conferences and attorney orientation and admission ceremonies, photographs of judicial officers and lawyer representatives, and the production of this report. The court welcomes suggestions from the bar for appropriate uses of this fund.

## Local Rules of Practice

The District of Nevada oversees its Local Rules of Practice through the efforts of the Standing Committee on the Local Rules chaired by United States Magistrate Judge Robert A. McQuaid, Jr. The Standing Committee is comprised of several judges, private and governmental attorneys with expertise in various types of law, and clerk's office support staff. The Standing Committee is further divided into three subcommittees who consider and recommend new and amended rules as needed. The Civil Rules Subcommittee is chaired by Magistrate Judge Robert J. Johnston; the Criminal Rules Subcommittee is chaired by Magistrate Judge Lawrence R. Leavitt; and Bankruptcy Judge Bruce Markell heads the Bankruptcy Rules Subcommittee.

Recently, all three Subcommittees completed an extensive review and revision of the Local Rules of Practice. The proposed revised Local Rules were distributed for public comment during November 2005. The Local Rules of Practice are currently in the process of being re-printed and will be available in the near future.

The Local Rules of Practice are available at no charge on the district and bankruptcy court websites at [www.nvd.uscourts.gov](http://www.nvd.uscourts.gov) and [www.nvb.uscourts.gov](http://www.nvb.uscourts.gov), [www.nvb.uscourts.gov](http://www.nvb.uscourts.gov), or in hard copy binder format at a modest cost from the current publisher, Book Publishing Company of Seattle, Washington, by calling 1-800-537-7881 or via its website on the Internet at [www.bpc.com](http://www.bpc.com).

## Staff Attorneys

### Pro Se Staff Attorneys

The district has four full-time pro se staff attorneys, two of whom are located in Las Vegas and two of whom are located in Reno. The pro se staff attorneys draft proposed orders and memoranda, and provide to the judges and magistrate judges whatever other support is necessary, with respect to all aspects of non-capital habeas corpus litigation, and also with respect to the screening of prisoner civil rights complaints. The pro se staff attorneys in Las Vegas are supervised by United States Magistrate Judge Peggy Leen. The pro se staff attorneys in Reno are supervised by United States Magistrate Judge Robert A. McQuaid, Jr..

The district has one of the highest prisoner filing rates in the nation, both per capita and per judge. Between July 1, 2004, and June 31, 2005, the district had a total of 741 new prisoner cases initiated. It is believed that the number of prisoner filings will either remain constant or increase in the foreseeable future.

### Capital Habeas Corpus Staff Attorneys

The district has two full time capital habeas corpus staff attorneys, both based in Reno. These staff attorneys work on all aspects of capital habeas corpus cases, including case management, drafting of proposed orders, and budgeting appointed counsel.

As of June 30, 2005, the district had 32 pending capital habeas corpus cases. That number is not likely to decline any time soon. With 85 prisoners on death row (as of July 1, 2005), Nevada's death row population is one of the largest, per capita, in the nation. As of September 2005, there were 22 capital cases pending in the Nevada Supreme Court. As those cases, and the cases pending in the lower Nevada courts, proceed through the state court system, the district will likely see a progressive increase in the number of capital habeas corpus cases filed.



# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CLERK'S OFFICE

The Clerk's Office has staffed offices in Las Vegas and Reno and is responsible for providing a myriad of administrative support functions to assist the Court in the effective and efficient administration of justice. Organizationally, the Clerk's Office can be divided into two distinct units: administration and operation.

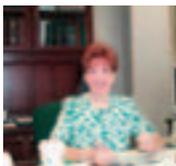
The administrative side of the Clerk's office is responsible for the "business" side of the administration of justice and encompasses such functions as budgeting, procurement, automation, finance, human resources, jury management, and Criminal Justice Act oversight. The operational support unit in the Clerk's office manages the following areas: intake, records, docketing, case management, court recording and reporting, statistical analysis, and staffing and support of various judicial committees.

Due to budget constraints, the Clerk's office has been operating well below its required staffing levels for the past several years. Despite reduced staffing, the Clerk's office has been able to successfully meet and exceed statutory and other requirements through the dedicated efforts of all staff, an increased use of automation, downsizing and reorganizations.

While there have been numerous personnel changes over the past few years, one of note deserves special note.

## Tribute to Ms. Linda Lea Sharer

Linda Lea Sharer, Chief Deputy Clerk in Reno, retired in 2005 after 35 years of dedicated government service. Ms. Sharer was hired in the Las Vegas Clerk's Office on March 16, 1970 at a Grade 4/1 with an annual salary of \$5,522.00! It did not take long for her to start her rapid climb through the organization as she received her first promotion one month after she was hired! This took her to a Grade 5/1 with a salary of \$6,548 per year. Ms. Sharer was elevated to position of su-



pervisor in 1976 and transferred to the Reno Clerk's Office in 1981. Ms. Sharer was appointed Chief Deputy Clerk in October, 1982.

Ms. Sharer's superior knowledge of local rules of practice and court process, steady leadership, sense of compassion,

and willingness to do whatever it took to get the job done are but a few of her positive traits that made her such an effective leader within the Court.

## Caseload Information

### Civil Case Filings

Civil filings have remained fairly stable over the past five years with some fluctuations, but no significant increases or decreases. For example, the Court saw only a 72 case difference in the number of civil cases filed district wide in Statistical Year 2004 as compared to Statistical Year 2005. Civil filings in Las Vegas decreased by 136 cases while Reno civil filings increased by 64 cases.

### Civil Case Filings for Statistical Year

|           | 2004  |     | 2005  |     | %Change<br>2004 To 2005 |
|-----------|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------------------------|
| Las Vegas | 1,844 | 71% | 1,708 | 68% | -7%                     |
| Reno      | 746   | 29% | 810   | 32% | +9%                     |
| Total     | 2,590 |     | 2,518 |     | -3%                     |

### Civil Case Terminations

Overall civil terminations increased in 2005 when compared to the same period in 2004. Reno experienced a 9% decrease in civil terminations while Las Vegas had a 6% increase.

### Civil Case Terminations for Statistical Year

|           | 2004  |     | 2005  |     | %Change<br>2004 To 2005 |
|-----------|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------------------------|
| Las Vegas | 1,722 | 68% | 1,817 | 72% | +6%                     |
| Reno      | 797   | 32% | 724   | 28% | -9%                     |
| Total     | 2,519 |     | 2,541 |     | +%                      |

### Pending Civil Caseload

The district realized a 1% decrease in the pending civil caseload for the period ending June 30, 2005, when compared to the same period in 2004. There was a 10% increase in pending Reno civil cases in 2005, while Las Vegas had a 7% decrease during the same period.

### Pending Civil Cases For Statistical Year

|           | 2004  |     | 2005  |     | %Change<br>2004 To 2005 |
|-----------|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------------------------|
| Las Vegas | 1,678 | 68% | 1,568 | 64% | -7%                     |
| Reno      | 797   | 32% | 876   | 36% | +10%                    |
| Total     | 2,475 |     | 2,444 |     | -1%                     |



### Pending Civil Cases Over Three Years Old

Pending civil cases over three years old have stayed consistent at 4% to 5% of total pending civil caseload for the past two years.

### Civil Cases Pending Over Three Years

| Reporting Period | Number Pending Over 3 Years | Pending Cases | Percent of Pending Cases |
|------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| March, 2005      | 111                         | 2,518         | 4%                       |
| September, 2004  | 136                         | 2,560         | 5%                       |
| March, 2004      | 115                         | 2,435         | 5%                       |
| September, 2003  | 101                         | 2,486         | 4%                       |

### CRIMINAL CASES

#### Criminal Case and Defendant Filings

For the period ending June 30, 2005, the court experienced decreases of 11% for both criminal cases and defendant filings over the same period in 2004. Las Vegas's criminal case filings decreased by 83 cases, or 17%, while Reno's case filings increased by only 6 cases, or 3%. There was a 14% decrease in the number of criminal defendants in Las Vegas and no change for Reno.

#### Criminal Cases Filed During Statistical Year

|           | 2004 |     | 2005 |     | %Change 2004 To 2005 |
|-----------|------|-----|------|-----|----------------------|
| Las Vegas | 500  | 71% | 417  | 67% | -17%                 |
| Reno      | 201  | 29% | 207  | 33% | 3%                   |
| Total     | 701  |     | 624  |     | -11%                 |

#### Criminal Cases Filed During Statistical Year

|           | 2004 |     | 2005 |     | %Change 2000 To 2001 |
|-----------|------|-----|------|-----|----------------------|
| Las Vegas | 717  | 76% | 618  | 74% | -14%                 |
| Reno      | 221  | 24% | 220  | 26% | 0%                   |
| Total     | 938  |     | 838  |     | -11%                 |

#### Criminal Case Terminations and Defendant Closures

The district's criminal case terminations dropped 21% from Statistical Year 2004 to Statistical Year 2005, while criminal defendant closures declined 22% for the same period. There was a 16% decrease in criminal case terminations and a 20% decrease in criminal defendant closures in Las Vegas. During the same period, Reno saw a 31% decrease in criminal case terminations and a 27% decrease in criminal defendant closures.

#### Criminal Cases Closed During Statistical Year

|           | 2004 |     | 2005 |     | %Change 2000 To 2001 |
|-----------|------|-----|------|-----|----------------------|
| Las Vegas | 468  | 70% | 391  | 73% | -16%                 |
| Reno      | 203  | 30% | 141  | 27% | -31%                 |
| Total     | 671  |     | 532  |     | -21%                 |

#### Criminal Defendants Closed During Statistical Year

|           | 2004 |     | 2005 |     | %Change 2000 To 2001 |
|-----------|------|-----|------|-----|----------------------|
| Las Vegas | 599  | 73% | 479  | 75% | -20%                 |
| Reno      | 219  | 27% | 159  | 25% | -27%                 |
| Total     | 818  |     | 638  |     | -22%                 |

#### Pending Criminal Caseload

There was an 11% increase in pending criminal cases between Statistical Year 2004 and Statistical Year 2005. The number of pending criminal defendants increased 17% during the same time frame.

#### Pending Criminal Caseload

|           | 2004  |     | 2005  |     | %Change 2004 To 2005 |
|-----------|-------|-----|-------|-----|----------------------|
| Las Vegas | Cases |     | Cases |     | Cases                |
|           | 619   | 78% | 644   | 73% | +4%                  |
| Reno      | Defts |     | Defts |     | Defts                |
|           | 910   | 81% | 1048  | 80% | +15%                 |
| Total     | Cases |     | Cases |     | Cases                |
|           | 175   | 22% | 236   | 27% | +35%                 |
| Total     | Defts |     | Defts |     | Defts                |
|           | 209   | 19% | 265   | 20% | +27%                 |
| Total     | Cases |     | Cases |     | Cases                |
|           | 794   |     | 880   |     | +11%                 |
| Total     | Defts |     | Defts |     | Defts                |
|           | 1119  |     | 1313  |     | +17%                 |



## Jury Practices and Utilization

The Court continues efficient innovative jury practices through the use of a one-day/one-trial system which requires prospective jurors to report only once during the life of a master jury wheel. If chosen to serve, the juror is excused after service on a single jury panel. If not chosen to serve, the juror may elect to be excused from further service for a minimum of two years. This system places less burden on individual jurors and provides an opportunity for more people to perform this important public service.

In 2005, the Court made a transition to the national jury management system,

JMS. With this transition, the Court is part of a Ninth Circuit pilot project which will allow jurors to complete their qualification information on-line. This system will be implemented and tested in 2006.

Other innovations include allowing the jurors to take notes and to submit written questions to witnesses subject to appropriate screening, the use of juror notebooks containing exhibits, the taking of witness testimony via video conference, pre-instructing the jury, instructing the jury prior to closing argument, and providing the jurors with copies of the written instructions for their use

during deliberations.

The number of jury trials in the district increased by 14.29%, from forty-nine in Statistical Year 2004 to fifty-six in Statistical Year 2005. The total number of jurors reporting for jury selection increased by 24.78%, from 2050 in Statistical Year 2004 to 2558 in Statistical Year 2005. The total number of jurors who reported for jury selection and were not selected, challenged or did not participate in voir dire increased by 44.70% in Statistical Year 2005 over Statistical Year 2004.

|                 | Statistical Year 2004 - Total Number of: |                            |                                                                                                              |               | Statistical Year 2005 - Total Number of: |                            |                                                                                                              |               |
|-----------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
|                 | Trials                                   | Jurors reporting for trial | Jurors who reported for jury selection and were not selected, challenged or did not participate in voir dire |               | Trials                                   | Jurors reporting for trial | Jurors who reported for jury selection and were not selected, challenged or did not participate in voir dire |               |
|                 |                                          |                            | #                                                                                                            | %             |                                          |                            | #                                                                                                            | %             |
| Reno            | 13                                       | 436                        | 116                                                                                                          | 26.61%        | 15                                       | 413                        | 121                                                                                                          | 29.30%        |
| Las Vegas       | 36                                       | 1614                       | 526                                                                                                          | 32.59%        | 41                                       | 2145                       | 808                                                                                                          | 37.67%        |
| <b>Combined</b> | <b>49</b>                                | <b>2050</b>                | <b>642</b>                                                                                                   | <b>31.32%</b> | <b>56</b>                                | <b>2558</b>                | <b>929</b>                                                                                                   | <b>36.32%</b> |

| Percentage of increase or decrease of unused jurors from the previous year | RENO            | 4.31%         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
|                                                                            | LAS VEGAS       | 53.61%        |
|                                                                            | <b>COMBINED</b> | <b>44.70%</b> |



## CJA Vouchers Processed

|                           | Las Vegas | Reno       | Total | % Change from previous year |
|---------------------------|-----------|------------|-------|-----------------------------|
| FY 2003                   | 1038      | 268        | 1306  |                             |
| FY 2004                   | 1041      | 340        | 1381  | 6%                          |
| FY 2005                   | 1117      | 421        | 1538  | 11%                         |
| <b>% Change 2003-2005</b> | <b>8%</b> | <b>57%</b> |       |                             |

## Case Assignments

|         | Reno Criminal Justice Act Panel | Las Vegas Criminal Justice Act Panel | Total | % Change from previous year |
|---------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------|
| FY 2003 | 45                              | 234                                  | 279   |                             |
| FY 2004 | 58                              | 345                                  | 403   | 44%                         |
| FY 2005 | 94                              | 342                                  | 436   | 8%                          |

|         | Reno Federal Public Defender | Las Vegas Federal Public Defender | Total | % Change from previous year |
|---------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------|
| FY 2003 | 211                          | 765                               | 976   |                             |
| FY 2004 | 239                          | 769                               | 1008  | 3%                          |
| FY 2005 | 314                          | 774                               | 1088  | 8%                          |

## Statistical Year 2004

| Month         | Reno       | Las Vegas   | Total       |
|---------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| 7             | 56         | 280         | 336         |
| 8             | 0          | 347         | 347         |
| 9             | 0          | 226         | 226         |
| 10            | 47         | 137         | 184         |
| 11            | 44         | 224         | 268         |
| 12            | 47         | 279         | 326         |
| 1             | 0          | 311         | 311         |
| 2             | 55         | 372         | 427         |
| 3             | 55         | 400         | 455         |
| 4             | 51         | 325         | 376         |
| 5             | 45         | 211         | 256         |
| 6             | 0          | 278         | 278         |
| <b>Totals</b> | <b>400</b> | <b>3390</b> | <b>3790</b> |

## Statistical Year 2005

| Month         | Reno       | Las Vegas   | Total       |
|---------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| 7             | 0          | 330         | 330         |
| 8             | 72         | 600         | 672         |
| 9             | 0          | 303         | 303         |
| 10            | 49         | 305         | 354         |
| 11            | 49         | 221         | 270         |
| 12            | 41         | 207         | 248         |
| 1             | 59         | 357         | 416         |
| 2             | 54         | 385         | 439         |
| 3             | 59         | 417         | 476         |
| 4             | 60         | 494         | 554         |
| 5             | 59         | 390         | 449         |
| 6             | 61         | 434         | 495         |
| <b>Totals</b> | <b>563</b> | <b>4443</b> | <b>5006</b> |
| <b>% +/-</b>  | <b>41%</b> | <b>31%</b>  | <b>32%</b>  |

## Criminal Justice Act

The Court continues to have a very active Criminal Justice Act Panel of attorneys who handle cases on which the Federal Public Defender has a conflict. The Panel members serve for a three-year term and may have their terms renewed at the end of their term. Judge Hunt chairs the Criminal Justice Act committee for the unofficial southern division in the District with Judge McQuaid serving as chair for the unofficial Northern division. These committees review all applications each year and make recommendations to the District Court Judges with respect to appointments to the Panel.

As the charts reflect, there has been a substantial increase in the number of Criminal Justice Act vouchers processed in the District with the largest increase experienced in the unofficial Northern division. Cases assigned to Panel Attorneys have also increased over the past two years.

## Naturalization

In Statistical Year 2005, naturalizations increased by 41% in Reno and 31% in Las Vegas, resulting in an overall district-wide increase of 32% over the number of naturalizations in Statistical Year 2004.



# STATE OF THE BANKRUPTCY COURT REPORT

## *Introductory Remarks By Chief Bankruptcy Judge Gregg W. Zive*

The Bankruptcy Court for the District of Nevada continues to evolve. Since our last comprehensive report in 2001, we have had the addition of Bankruptcy Judge Bruce A. Markell who has rendered the outstanding service we all anticipated at the time of his appointment. He has provided considerable guidance regarding local rules as well as implementation of the new bankruptcy legislation.

While there was a reduction in both consumer and business filings in 2004 and through June 2005, as the result of the passage of the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005, a spike in filings was predicted and occurred immediately before the effective date of the Reform Act, October 17, 2005, and case filings increased by 69% in the ten months ending October 31, 2005.

The Reform Act greatly increases the administrative burden upon the court and the Clerk's Office. There are significant changes in requirements for noticing and document filing, which have considerable implications for the Clerk's Office.

It is too early to predict whether the means test will require a significant number of hearings. If so, our calendars will become even more crowded. There are

also different standards for reaffirmation agreements which may require additional court time. Individuals seeking relief under either Chapter 13 or Chapter 11 will probably require additional court proceedings. We will not be able to accurately assess many of the ramifications of the Reform Act for some time.

Due to several provisions of the Re-



form Act, most people expect a dramatic increase in the number of pro se filers. This will necessarily require more effort by the Clerk's Office as well as the judges. There may also be an increase in appeals because the pro se debtors will not have the benefit of legal advice regarding their chance of success on appeal or whether there are even issues appropriate for appeal.

The Reform Act did have one notable benefit for the District of Nevada and that is that we were able to obtain one additional judicial position. Even though the Judicial Conference of the United States

recommended two, Congress only authorized one position. That position should be filled by March or April of 2006.

The Bankruptcy Court implemented the case management/electronic case filing (CM/ECF) docketing system several years ago and went mandatory January 1, 2005. It appears that the utilization of CM/ECF has been widely accepted and has provided considerable benefit to counsel and their parties. (7,286 of the 8,579 new cases filed during the first two weeks of October 2005, were electronically filed.) The use of CM/ECF does require ongoing effort to resolve issues as they arise and, of course, the Bankruptcy Court is participating in the effort by the District Court regarding its CM/ECF implementation.



*Following is a more detailed report regarding the status of the court, space projects, use of technology and other matters. None of these projects could be accomplished without the dedicated service of the members of the Clerk's Office and chambers staff.*

## Bankruptcy Court Profile

The Bankruptcy Court holds hearings and trials in Las Vegas and Reno. There are two judges presiding in the Las Vegas division, with a third judge approved, and expected to be appointed in the spring of 2006. One judge and one recalled judge presides in the Reno division together with a regularly scheduled visiting judge.

## Bankruptcy Court Leaps Into the 21st Century



The U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Nevada converted to the Case Management/Electronic Case Files (CM/ECF) docketing



system at the beginning of 2002, and started requiring mandatory electronic filing of cases and related documents effective January 1, 2004. Any attorney filing more than two documents a year is required to electronically file documents. Guidelines and exemption information are posted on the court's website at [www.nvb.uscourts.gov](http://www.nvb.uscourts.gov). CM/ECF allows attorneys to electronically file and access pleadings 24 hours a day, seven days a week via the Internet. Regularly scheduled training classes are available for the individual attorney, and also for the attorney's staff.

## Bankruptcy Statistics

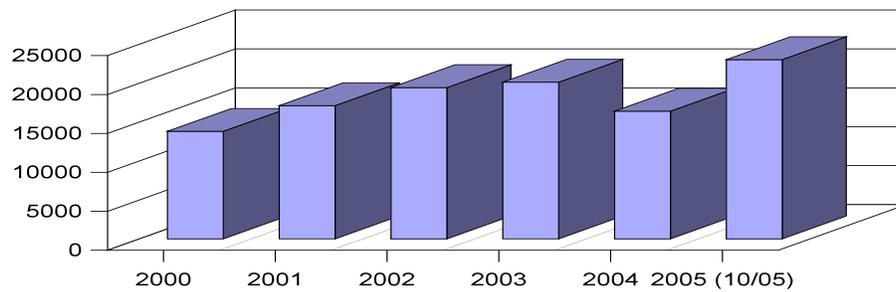
The number of bankruptcy petitions filed in the District of Nevada for the twelve-month time period ending October 30, 2005, increased to 25,044, a 45 percent increase over the previous twelve month time period ending October 30, 2004. (The Reno office increased 43 percent and the Las Vegas office increased 46 percent.) Chapter 11 filings increased by 9 percent.

Statistics from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts for the year ending June 2005 showed that the District of Nevada: 1) holds the 25th per capita ranking for Chapter 7 filings per 1000 population; 2) holds the 31st per capita ranking in total filings per 1000 population; 3) the national median ranking for per capita filings per 1000 population was 5.5; and 4) Nevada's per capita filings ranking per 1000 population on June 30, 2005 was 6.6.

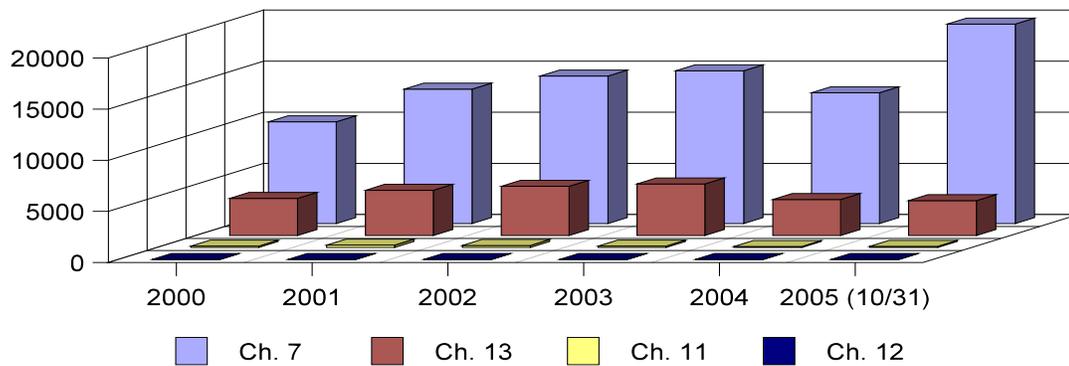
Nevada statistics for calendar years ending June 30th

| Year       | 2000          | 2001          | 2002          | 2003          | 2004          | 2005          |
|------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Chapter 7  | 9,832         | 11,709        | 13,482        | 15,011        | 14,402        | 12,467        |
| Chapter 11 | 115           | 226           | 194           | 148           | 125           | 123           |
| Chapter 12 | 2             | 3             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             |
| Chapter 13 | 3,699         | 4,030         | 4,707         | 4,974         | 4,442         | 3,061         |
|            | <b>13,710</b> | <b>17,800</b> | <b>19,430</b> | <b>20,117</b> | <b>16,406</b> | <b>15,651</b> |
|            |               | <b>30%</b>    | <b>9%</b>     | <b>4%</b>     | <b>-18%</b>   | <b>-5%</b>    |

Bankruptcy Filings  
Through October 2005



Chapter Breakdown  
2000 through 2005 (October 31)



# UNITED STATES PROBATION OFFICE

## Christopher Hansen

Chief United States Probation Officer

Since assuming duties as Chief United States Probation Officer on September 8, 2003, Christopher Hansen has guided the Probation Office through a variety of organizational changes. Noting that budget restrictions, new responsibilities and technological developments have afforded not only challenges, but opportunities, Chris recently noted, "The Probation Office has embarked on a path which requires that we identify old business practices that are still relevant in today's workplace, and are still helpful in serving the needs of our Court. In addition, we are committed to the development of new practices which will serve the interests of our Court in the years to come."



Some of the change experienced by our Probation Office will be cited hereafter. Some have been more challenging than others. However, the United States Probation Office is committed to expanding its efforts to meet the needs of the Court, as well as those of the community. In doing so, we remain fundamentally committed to protecting the public and assisting in the fair administration of justice.

## Operational Sites And Personnel

The probation office relocated its headquarters in July of 2005. The office is now located in the recently-renovated Foley Federal Building at 300 South Las Vegas Boulevard, Suite 1200, Las Vegas, Nevada. It is directly across the street from the Lloyd D. George United States Courthouse. A divisional office continues to operate in Reno, Nevada, at the Bruce R. Thompson United States Courthouse. Our headquarters office is staffed by 32 probation officers and 20 support staff, while our divisional office is staffed by 11 probation officers and three support staff.

As is the case throughout the Federal Judiciary, the lack of adequate resources has become an issue of extreme concern for our office. National and local workload requirements have continued to increase over past years. However, fiscal and human resources have not kept pace with workload needs. During fiscal year 2004, workload formula requirements dictated 70.8 authorized work units for the probation office. Through the implementation of economies and efficiencies, we operated with an on-board staffing level of 65 employees. These economies and efficiencies created the fiscal flexibility, under budget decentralization, to reprogram personnel dollars to other need areas of the Court.

In comparison, during fiscal year 2005 we were compelled to adjust spending patterns and staffing norms significantly. These adjustments resulted from cost containment initiatives promulgated by the Judicial Conference in response to diminished congressional funding. Our fiscal year 2005 workload formula requirements were reduced to 63 authorized work units. As a result, we were forced to operate at a reduced staffing level of 61 permanent staff, supplemented by four temporary part-time employees. The threat of future budget cuts and constraints remains of imminent concern. We anticipate shortfalls will continue in the coming years.

## Our Mission, Beliefs, And Vision

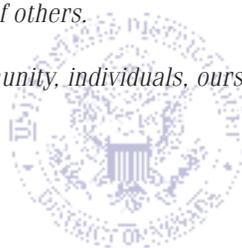
The office recently underwent some organizational refinement that will be critical to our future success. This refinement included an assessment of our existing mission, beliefs, and vision statement, and the development of a new charter which more clearly defines what is most important and applicable to our staff. As an arm of the Federal Judiciary, we remain committed to excellence as a national probation system and to serving the needs and interests of our Court. Our local mission statement follows.

*We are a team of dedicated professionals committed to making a difference.*

*We provide a balance between protecting the community and assisting individuals to function within society.*

*Our goal is to make a positive impact on the lives of others.*

*We do this for humanity, society, culture, the community, individuals, ourselves, and future generations.*



***"Integrity Is Our Guide"***

This mission statement was developed and accepted by our entire staff during our year-end training conference, which focused on team-building and organizational culture refinement. It will serve as the foundation of our organization and should assist our progress and development in the years to come.



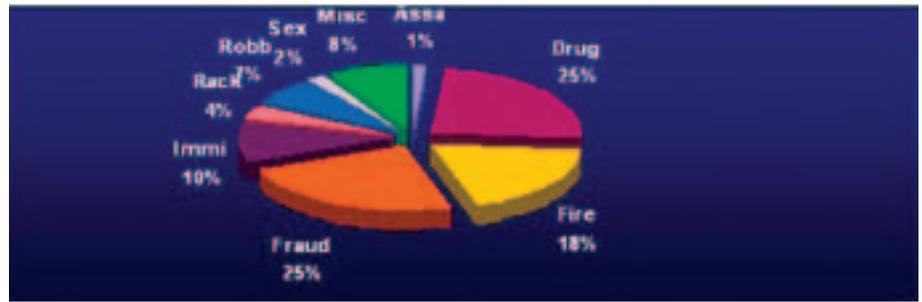
*"Looking toward a bright future together"*

**Presentence Investigations**

Determining appropriate sentences in cases where defendants have been found guilty of a crime following trial or by plea is a critical function of the Court. In most instances, the Court requires that probation officers investigate the background of defendants and submit a presentence investigation report prior to sentencing. The presentence investigation report serves multiple functions in judicial and correctional administration. It provides a comprehensive and accurate professional assessment of the defendant's overall background, as well as the defendant's involvement in the offense of conviction. The Court considers the investigative material and makes sentencing determinations based, in part, on that information. Presentence investigation reports also are used to aid probation officers in supervising offenders ordered to serve periods of supervision following sentence. These reports are further used by the Federal Bureau of Prisons for inmate classification, designation, and program/release planning, as well as by the U. S. Sentencing Commission for research and statistical data collection and analysis.

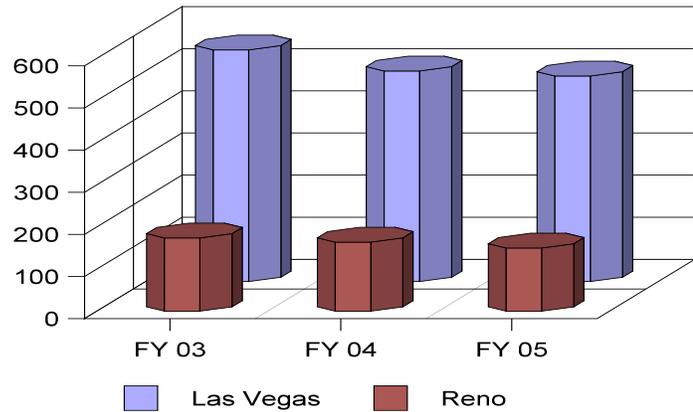
In fiscal year 2005, our investigation workload has seen a slight decline in the number of presentence investigation reports submitted to the Court, in comparison to prior years. The probation office completed 638 presentence investigation reports for the Court in fiscal year 2005. The chart below provides comparative workload data in this area over the past three years.

**Presentence Investigations Submitted to the Court**



|           | FY 03 | FY 04 | FY 05 |
|-----------|-------|-------|-------|
| Las Vegas | 550   | 500   | 488   |
| Reno      | 174   | 164   | 150   |
| Total     | 724   | 664   | 638   |

Officers continue to investigate a multitude of case types, the most prevailing of which include fraud, drugs, and firearms offenses. The chart below provides a clearer picture of dominant cases investigated by type.



**PSRs By Type**

In an effort to adjust to ongoing workload demands, our office has begun to modify and streamline business processes related to the preparation and distribution of the presentence investigation report. A newly formed collateral investigative unit has allowed us to begin gathering and analyzing data relative to defendants' backgrounds prior to adjudication. Technology advances also have assisted us in meeting established disclosure requirements, and in working to ensure the overall accuracy, quality and timeliness of the reports submitted to the Court.



*Reno staff at work.*

The importance of this focus was recently accented in the investigation of a

defendant pending sentencing after conviction for Illegal Re-entry. The defendant presented as very cooperative during the initial interview phase of the investigation, reporting what appeared to be credible information regarding his identity and criminal background. However, immigration officials painted a very different picture of the defendant's criminal history, attributing several prior convictions to him that would have substantially increased his custodial term under the sentencing guidelines. The probation officer made a focused effort to investigate all facets of the defendant's background to ensure that the Court was provided a comprehensive accounting of the defendant. A thorough investigation revealed that the defendant had provided factual information on his true identity and criminal history. It was confirmed that the immigration data regarding his criminal past was inaccurate, and the defendant was sentenced accordingly.

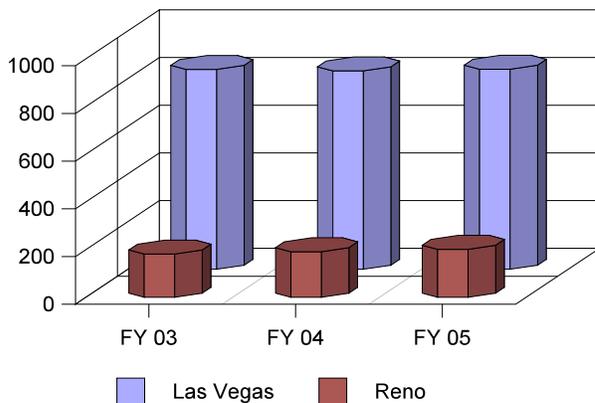


## Supervising Post-conviction Offenders

Monograph 109, The Supervision of Federal Offenders, provides the following guidance. "Supervision is a dynamic process throughout which officers are to keep informed and, consistent with the conditions of release and individual circumstance, intervene with strategies designed to manage risk and provide offenders with the tools and social services they may require to improve their conduct and condition. It is through such intervention in higher risk cases that officers further the goal of public safety during the period of supervision and beyond."

Our officers carry out these duties by assessing the risks, needs and strengths of each offender to determine the appropriate level of supervision. The intervention strategies mentioned above are focused on maximizing offender success during the period of supervision. To that end, our goal remains an uncomplicated, but extremely challenging one. During fiscal year 2005 our office continued its longstanding focus on controlling offender risk, protecting the community and providing correctional services for offenders in need. Although caseloads have remained fairly stable in recent years, we must still address a multitude of issues presented by offenders.

### Post-Conviction Cases Supervised Each Fiscal Year



|           | FY 03 | FY 04 | FY 05 |
|-----------|-------|-------|-------|
| Las Vegas | 838   | 832   | 839   |
| Reno      | 181   | 192   | 201   |
| Total     | 1019  | 1024  | 1040  |

At the end of fiscal year 2005, our post-conviction supervision caseload numbered 1040 cases. Officers supervise cases with many court-ordered conditions, including home confinement/electronic monitoring, alcohol/substance abuse and mental health treatment, community service, vocational training, fine/restitution obligations, firearms restrictions and many other conditions. Officers submitted 766 reports advising the Court of offender non-compliance in fiscal year 2005. However, only 131 cases (13 percent of the overall caseload) resulted in revocation and closing. While enforcing court-ordered sanctions and controlling risk are significant requirements of the supervision process, our officers are clearly centering emphasis on supervision strategies which effect positive change by offenders within the community. Encouraging and facilitating pro-social behavior are objectives which must remain a priority if we hope to achieve successes in offender supervision. Officers meet these objectives on a daily basis.



Typical Home Visit

Electronic Monitoring

Confiscated Weapons

Our commitment to helping others was recently exemplified by an officer's actions in dealing with an offender required to serve dual supervision, both in Las Vegas as a federal offender and within California as a state parolee, following a custodial term. Although the offender had no significant ties or support resources in California, authorities there insisted she return to serve state supervision, after the State of Nevada had denied an interstate compact transfer request. Even noting our plans to closely supervise her as a federal offender, assisting with housing and other transitional services, California mandated her return - to live in a welfare hotel with absolutely no support. It was only after exhaustive written and verbal communication with state authorities in both Nevada and California, that the offender was allowed to return to our district, where we have since helped with housing, employment, and treatment resources to assist with successful re-integration. Were it not for our persistence and desire to make a difference, that offender would surely have reverted to anti-social behavior.

**Our Officers in Action:** The perils of an officer's day are quite varied. On occasion, one might encounter any of the activities or circumstances pictured below.

Technology also has become an integral part of our supervision processes. In fiscal year 2005, we initiated a mobile technology program, aimed at equipping all supervision officers with laptops and secure access to our data network. This mobile access has allowed officers to recall needed data regarding offenders while conducting field activities, as well as to collect and immediately transmit data from the field to the office and Court when necessary. The new technology affords officers the opportunity to work smarter, and has been quite successful in allowing them to spend more time conducting community-based supervision.

Training of our staff also has remained a priority. This past fiscal year, probation staff completed almost 2,000 hours of training in a multitude of areas, including both operational and administrative functions. We believe that the District of Nevada maintains one of the best trained and most effective and efficient probation offices in the Judiciary. Our goal remains to continue improving and ensuring that the Court and the community receives the very best of service in the years to come.

# United States Pretrial Services

## Historical Overview

The origin of pretrial services dates back to 1927 when bail systems in Chicago were examined. Widespread abuses were found including: the unnecessary detention of the indigent, the use of bail to punish defendants prior to a determination of guilt, and the impropriety of permitting the professional bondsman to act as release broker for the court. It was argued that bail should be set not on the basis of the alleged offense, or the defendant's ability to raise money, but on the overall social background and circumstances of each individual defendant.



The Bail Reform Act of 1966 was enacted to revise practices relating to bail, and to eliminate reliance on money as the sole determinant of pretrial release. The Act provided U.S. Judicial Officers with standards and guidelines requiring consideration of the accused's overall background and community ties, thereby fostering a more equitable system of bail. The Act created a presumption of release and required the court to impose the least restrictive conditions of release which provide reasonable assurance that defendants will honor future court commitments.

While the Bail Reform Act of 1966 required consideration of several factors in determining bail, the federal courts lacked a mechanism by which such information could be verified and made available to judicial officers in a timely fashion. Recognizing the need for this mechanism, Congress enacted Title II of the Speedy Trial Act of 1974. The Act authorized the Director of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts to establish, on a demonstration basis, pretrial services agencies in 10 representative judicial districts. The agencies were to provide the court with verified information relevant to Bail Reform Act release criteria, serve as an administrative arm to oversee adherence to conditions of release, and to provide necessary services

to persons released pending trial. Based on the statistical success of the pretrial services agencies in the demonstration districts, and the recommendation of the Judicial Conference of the United States and the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, bills were introduced in both Houses of Congress to expand pretrial services beyond the demonstration districts and pretrial services functions were established in every Federal district.

On September 27, 1982, the Pretrial Services Act of 1982 was signed into law by President Ronald Reagan, authorizing the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, under the supervision and direction of the Judicial Conference of the United States, to provide directly, or by contract or otherwise, for the establishment of pretrial services in each U.S. judicial district other than the District of Columbia. The Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1984 placed the consideration of community safety on an equal footing with the consideration of likelihood of appearance at trial as factors in the court's pretrial release decisions.

In October 1984, the District of Nevada established a Pretrial Services Office, and James Marsh was appointed as the Chief U.S. Pretrial Services Officer. Upon retirement of the former chief, Shiela Adkins was appointed as Chief U.S. Pretrial Services Officer, for the District of Nevada, on July 12, 2004.



## Operational Sites and Personnel

The United States Pretrial Services Office is headquartered in the Lloyd D. George U.S. Courthouse in Las Vegas. The Las Vegas staff consists of nine pretrial services officers and three support employees. The other operational site is the United States Pretrial Services Office in Reno, Nevada, at the Bruce R. Thompson

U.S. Courthouse. The Pretrial Services Office is staffed by two pretrial services offices and one support staff.

## Mission Beliefs and Office Culture

The United States Probation and Pretrial Services Charter for Excellence is used as a mechanism to define our unique profession, guide office operations, and establish goals. We are committed to the mission critical ideals that comprise the Charters which are, integrity, fairness, teamwork and excellence. Since July 2004, we have further committed ourselves to reshape and redefine our office culture by establishing and abiding by five key elements:

- All staff are engaged and committed to a shared vision of exceptional service to the Court and community.
- Everyone is accountable and responsible for the mission of the office.
- Communication is defined as both listening and talking.
- We all work together as a team and support each other.
- Everyone (staff and stakeholders) is important, valued, and respected.

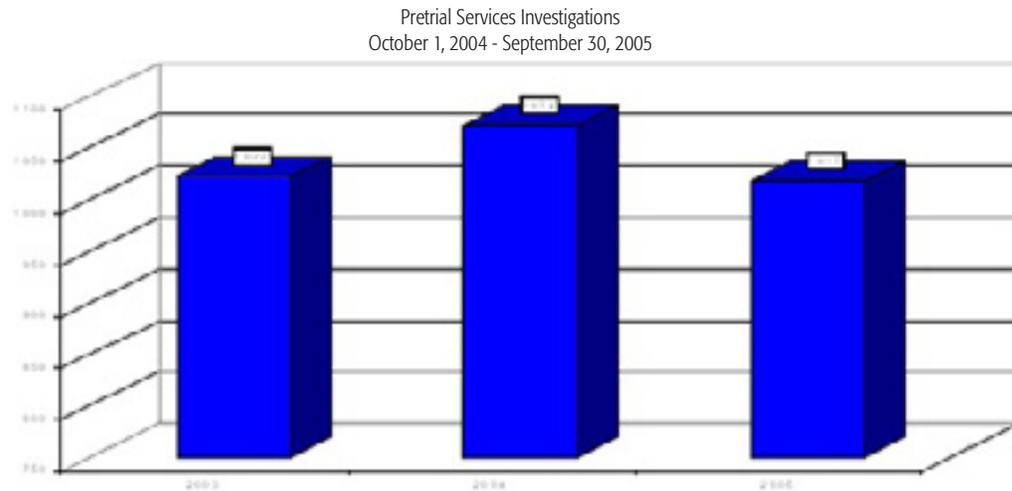
## Workload Pretrial Services Investigations

Consistent with 18 U.S.C. § 3154, pretrial services officers collect, verify, and report to the judicial officer, prior to the release hearing, information pertaining to the pretrial release of each person charged with an offense. The pretrial services officer will interview the defendant and conduct supplemental interviews with family or other sources of verification. A written pretrial services report is prepared for each defendant which covers the following elements:

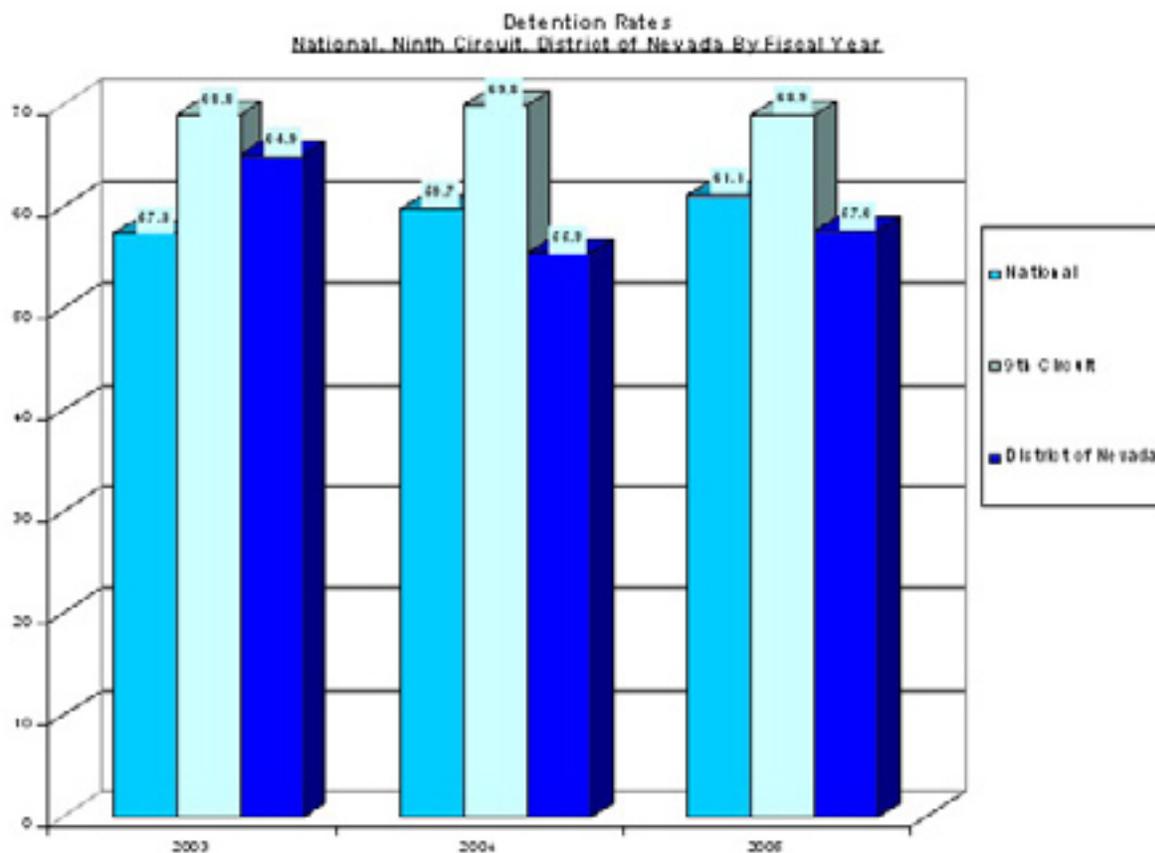
- Personal History
- Familial Ties
- Residential History
- Employment History
- Financial Resources
- Physical and Mental Health
- Alcohol/Substance Abuse History
- Criminal History
- Assessment of Risks
- Recommendation for Release or Detention



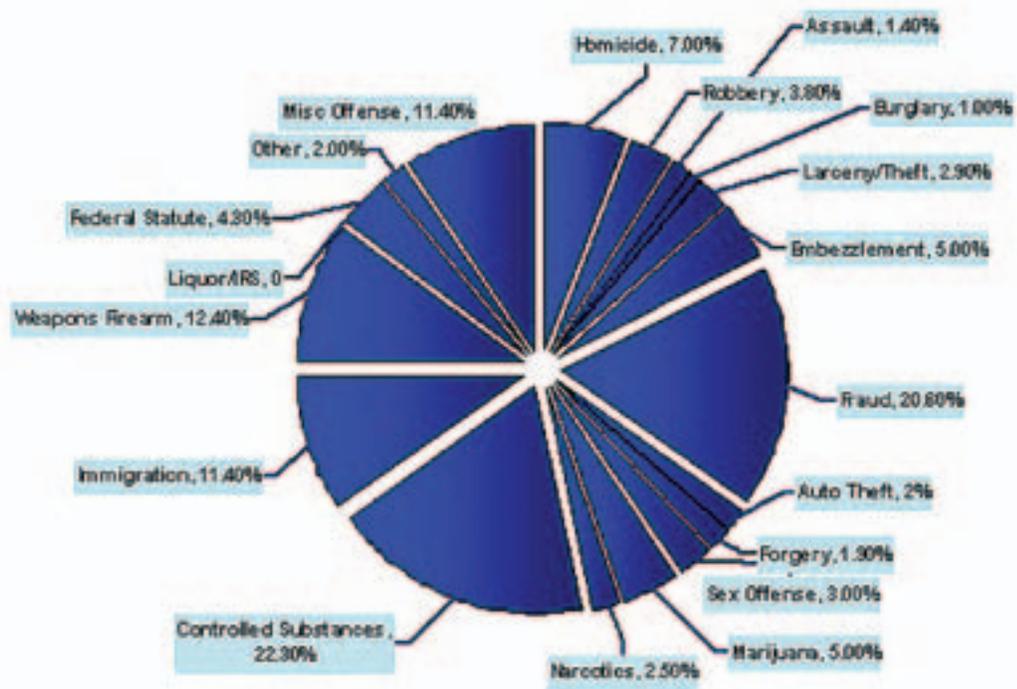
Conditions of release are recommended to ameliorate risks of nonappearance and danger to the community. When no conditions of release can be fashioned to reasonably assure the defendant's return to court for further proceedings, or ensure the safety of the community, detention is recommended. During the twelve-month period beginning October 1, 2004 and ending September 30, 2005, 1,017 pretrial services investigations and reports were prepared in the District of Nevada. A synopsis of the workload over the past three fiscal years is depicted below.



Key functions of pretrial services include the preparation of objective, concise, and thorough pretrial services reports, reduction of detention, and effective supervision to ensure compliance with court ordered conditions of release. With regard to pretrial detention, numerous factors contribute to the overall detention rate such as the nature of the alleged offense, immigration status, history and characteristics of the defendants, and others. Our detention rate is typically below the circuit average, and normally within a few percentage points of the national average which is perhaps indicative of the strong efforts made by officers to collect, verify, and report relevant information to the judicial officer prior to release hearings.



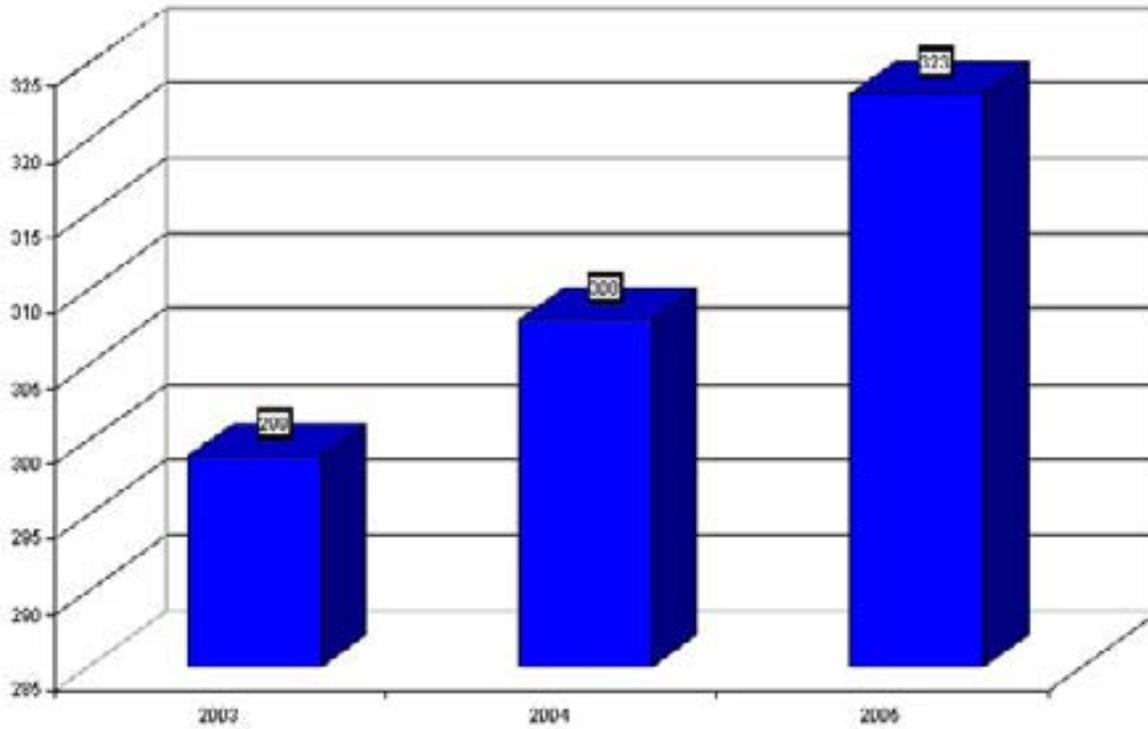
Offenses Charged in Pretrial Services Investigations  
 Completed October 1, 2004 - September 30, 2005  
 District of Nevada



### *Pretrial Services Supervision*

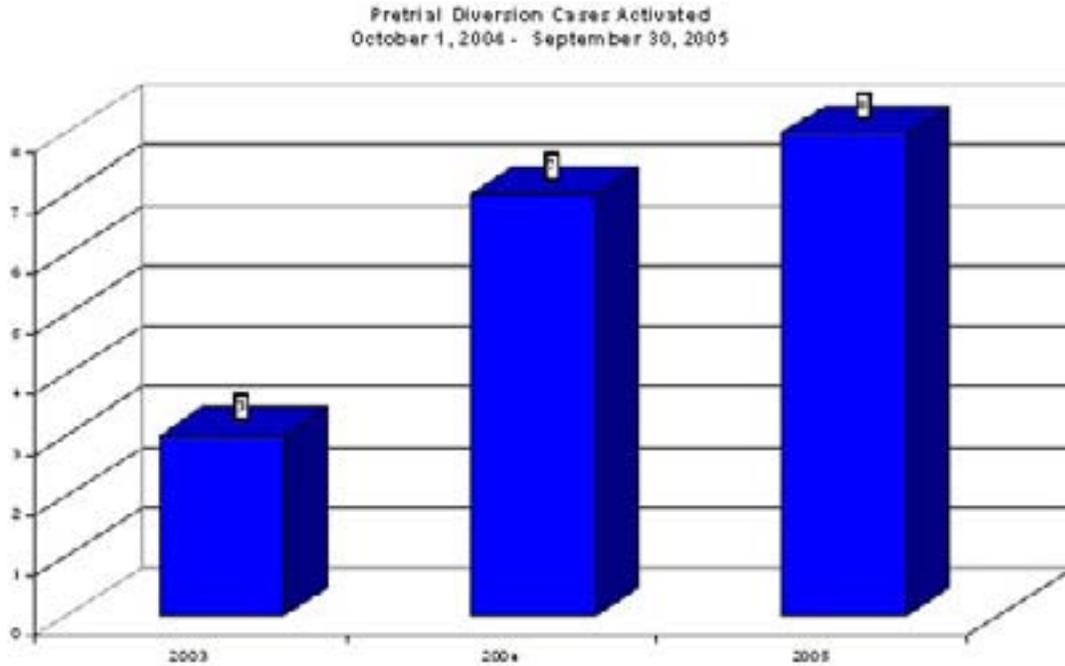
Pretrial Services is also charged with supervising those persons released into its custody as ordered by the judicial officer. During the twelve-month period beginning October 1, 2004 and ending September 30, 2005, 323 defendants were received for supervision in the District of Nevada. A synopsis of the supervision workload over the past three fiscal years is provided below.

Pretrial Services Supervision Caseload  
October 1, 2004 - September 30, 2006



### ***Pretrial Diversion***

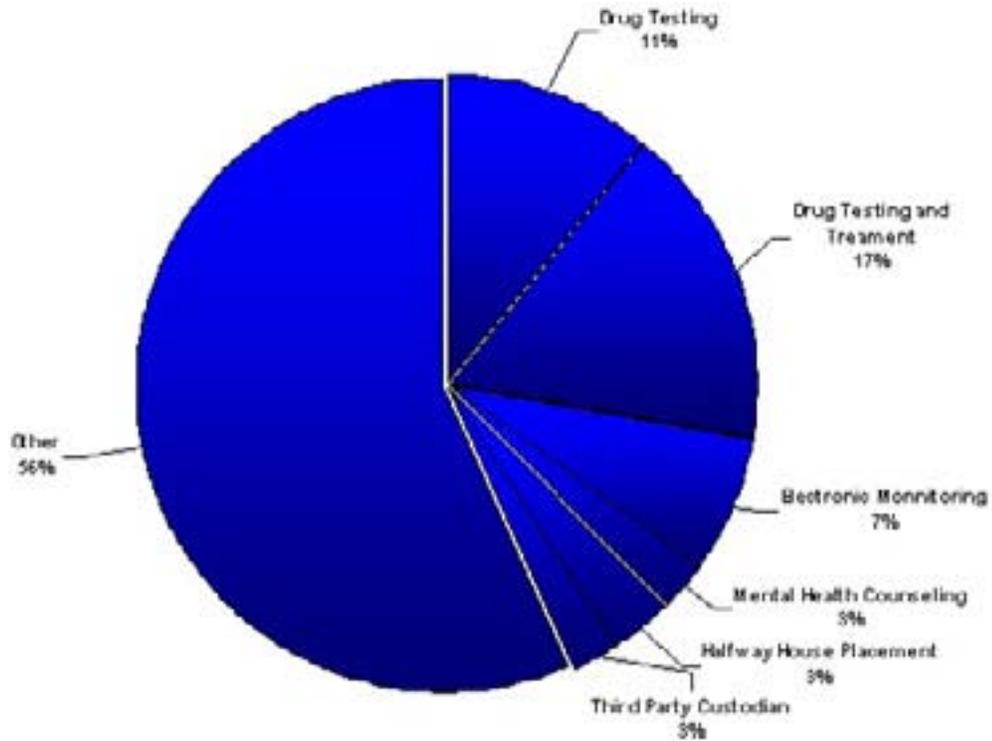
Upon referral from the United States Attorney's Office, Pretrial Services also conducts investigations and supervises pretrial diversion cases. Pretrial diversion is an alternative to prosecution which seeks to divert certain candidates from traditional criminal justice processing into a program of community supervision administered by the pretrial services office. The diversion process may begin prior or subsequent to the formal filing of charges. In either case, prosecution is suspended, and upon successful completion of a period of supervision, charges are dismissed. A candidate's participation in the diversion program must be voluntary. During the twelve-month period beginning October 1, 2004 and ending September 30, 2005, eight pretrial diversion reports were prepared in the District of Nevada. A synopsis of the pretrial diversion investigations conducted during the past three fiscal years is depicted below.



**Alternatives to Detention**

The pretrial services office uses all available alternatives to detention. Risk management and appropriate supervision activities are conducted to ensure defendants' compliance with court ordered conditions of release.

**Alternatives to Detention Used In Combination With Pretrial Services Supervision  
October 1, 2004 - September 30, 2005**



## Law Libraries

The United States Courts Libraries for the District of Nevada are part of a 20 branch library system with headquarters in San Francisco, California. While court libraries are statutorily a unit of the Court of Appeals, the Ninth Circuit library system exists to serve the research needs of all members of the federal judiciary in the Ninth Circuit, and more broadly, the federal judiciary as a whole. The branches, located in Reno and Las Vegas, are staffed by professional librarians who provide specialized reference and information support services. These include researching legislation, compiling legislative histories, finding cases, updating case and law status, and gathering background information on a particular case and/or subject. Reference assistance is also provided in other areas, such as court governance, biographical information, and statistical data.

Both locations maintain a traditional print library, including reporters, digests, treatises, as well as publications of Congress, the Judicial Conference of the United States, the Federal Judicial Center, the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference, and the Administrative Office of the United

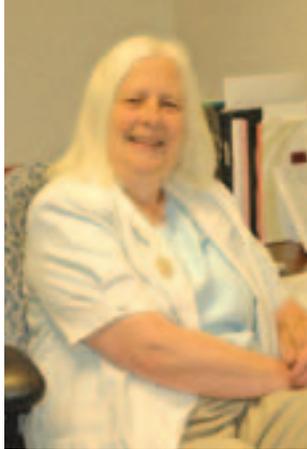
States Courts. In addition, each branch carries and archives Nevada-specific materials. Because no single library collection can be all inclusive, the libraries also borrow materials from other libraries across the country and cooperatively develop specialized collections of materials based on the needs of their courts.

The circuit library system maintains a web presence with links to widely used on-line resources, pathfinders, and other research guides, as well as a link to the circuit-wide library catalog, the J-Net, OED, Black's Law Dictionary on-line, Hein's online collection of periodicals and Ninth Circuit decisions, rules and jury instructions.

The librarians provide e-mail current awareness (including Supreme Court Syllabi, Congressional Record Summary, Useful Websites and the Current Index to Legal Periodicals), training in the use of on-line databases, regularly publish newsletters and create research guides and subject bibliographies. The librarians participate in many circuit-wide library projects such as the creation of pathfinders and other informational documents.

Services to the general public are restricted to attorneys who practice before the United States Courts for the District of Nevada. Ann Jarrell, the satellite librarian for the District of Nevada, has been assisting staff and attorneys since January of 2005.

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**Delsie A. Stayner**, the first Satellite Librarian for the U.S. Courts Library in Las Vegas, Nevada, retired December 27, 2004.

Delsie earned the Bachelor of Religious Education at Northwest Christian College in Eugene, Oregon, and the Master of Librarianship at the University of Washington in Seattle. She held paraprofessional positions at the Lane County Law Library in Eugene, Oregon for three years and at the law firm of Bogle & Gates during her two years of graduate school in Seattle.

Before becoming the Satellite Librarian, Delsie was Acquisitions Librarian at the University of Southern California Law Library in Los Angeles.

Delsie was an active member of the American Association of Law Libraries, WestPac (a regional organization of law librarians), NEVLL (Nevada Law Librarians), and the Nevada Library Association.

She plans to return to Eugene, Oregon, to become a full-time Oregon Ducks fan. In addition, she plans to hone her skills trolling for trout on the lakes and streams of Oregon, intends to read all those books she bought over the years, and spend time with her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



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# Court Telephone Directory

LAS VEGAS - Area Code: 702

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGES

|                                                                                          |                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| The Honorable Philip M. Pro<br>Chief United States District Judge<br>Courtroom Deputy    | 464-5510<br>464-5426 |
| The Honorable Roger L. Hunt<br>United States District Judge<br>Courtroom Deputy          | 464-5530<br>464-5432 |
| The Honorable Kent J. Dawson<br>United States District Judge<br>Courtroom Deputy         | 464-5560<br>464-5429 |
| The Honorable James C. Mahan<br>United States District Judge<br>Courtroom Deputy         | 464-5520<br>464-5413 |
| The Honorable Robert C. Jones<br>United States District Judge<br>Courtroom Deputy        | 464-5490<br>464-5427 |
| The Honorable Lloyd D. George<br>Senior United States District Judge<br>Courtroom Deputy | 464-5500<br>464-5428 |

## UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGES

|                                                                                         |                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| The Honorable Lawrence R. Leavitt<br>United States Magistrate Judge<br>Courtroom Deputy | 464-5540<br>464-5435 |
| The Honorable Robert J. Johnston<br>United States Magistrate Judge<br>Courtroom Deputy  | 464-5550<br>464-5416 |
| The Honorable Peggy A. Leen<br>United States Magistrate Judge<br>Courtroom Deputy       | 464-5570<br>464-5433 |
| The Honorable George Foley, Jr.<br>United States Magistrate Judge<br>Courtroom Deputy   | 464-5575<br>464-5433 |

## UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGES

|                                                                                      |                      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| The Honorable Linda B. Riegler<br>United States Bankruptcy Judge<br>Courtroom Deputy | 388-6120<br>388-6192 |
| The Honorable Bruce A. Markell<br>United States Bankruptcy Judge<br>Courtroom Deputy | 388-6505<br>388-6710 |

## COURT AGENCIES

|                                                                        |                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Clerk, U.S. District Court<br>Clerk of Court<br>Chief Deputy-Las Vegas | 464-5400<br>464-5456<br>464-5477 |
| Clerk, U.S. Bankruptcy Court<br>Clerk of Court                         | 388-6709<br>388-6639             |
| United States Attorney                                                 | 388-6336                         |
| Federal Public Defender                                                | 388-6577                         |
| United States Marshal                                                  | 388-6355                         |
| United States Probation                                                | 388-6428                         |
| United States Pretrial Services                                        | 464-5630                         |



**UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGES**

|                                                                                              |                      |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| The Honorable Larry R. Hicks<br>United States District Judge<br>Courtroom Deputy             | 686-5927<br>686-5829 |
| The Honorable Brian Sandoval<br>United States District Judge<br>Courtroom Deputy             | 686-5670<br>686-5833 |
| The Honorable Edward C. Reed, Jr.<br>Senior United States District Judge<br>Courtroom Deputy | 686-5919<br>686-5831 |
| The Honorable Howard D. McKibben<br>Senior United States District Judge<br>Courtroom Deputy  | 686-5880<br>686-5827 |

**COURT AGENCIES**

|                                                  |                      |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Clerk, U.S. District Court<br>Chief Deputy-Reno  | 686-5800<br>686-5850 |
| Clerk, U.S. Bankruptcy Court<br>Deputy-in-Charge | 784-5023<br>784-5613 |
| United States Attorney                           | 784-6538             |
| Federal Public Defender                          | 784-5626             |
| United States Marshal                            | 686-5780             |
| United States Probation                          | 686-5980             |
| United States Pretrial Services                  | 686-5964             |

**UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGES**

|                                                                                            |                      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| The Honorable Robert A. McQuaid, Jr.<br>United States Magistrate Judge<br>Courtroom Deputy | 686-5858<br>686-5758 |
| The Honorable Valerie P. Cooke<br>United States Magistrate Judge<br>Courtroom Deputy       | 686-5855<br>686-5833 |

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE**

|                                                                                         |                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| The Honorable Gregg W. Zive<br>Chief United States Bankruptcy Judge<br>Courtroom Deputy | 784-5017<br>784-5023<br>Ext. 3111 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|

